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THE HISTORIC ANNALS
OF
SOUTHWESTERN NEW YORK



Louis F. Thorkelson

THE HISTORIC ANNALS

OF

SOUTHWESTERN NEW YORK

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
AND EDITOR OF CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY SECTION
WILLIAM J. DOTY

EDITOR OF CATTARAUGUS COUNTY SECTION
CHARLES E. CONGDON

EDITOR OF ALLEGANY COUNTY SECTION
LEWIS H. THORNTON

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CHAPTER XXXII

Dunkirk

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Dunkirk was born because of a supposed mission to be the greatest lake port on the Great Lakes. She was selected as the western terminus of the Erie Railroad, and while the President of the United States was driving the silver spike to make the completion of the first railroad across the State, and Daniel Webster delivering the oration of the occasion, the first fleet of steamships to connect a railway system with the traffic of the Great Lakes was whistling its celebration of the event at the Dunkirk docks.

Twenty years ago an unnamed writer stated the above in advocating "The return of the city to its birthright." No pioneer settlement in southwestern New York seemed more strategically located, or promised more often to develop as a metropolis during its early years. None has had to face so many changes of prospect growing out of further expansions of the agencies that initiated its growth, the chief of which was transportation facilities. Each set-back has been met with fortitude, each problem has been solved as it came to the fore, and Dunkirk has become a city noteworthy for its public spirit, educational advantages and cultural privileges, completeness of public utilities and the progressive spirit of its citizens.

Aside from agricultural advantages which were enhanced by the climatical effects of Lake Erie, one of the predominating attractions of Dunkirk to the pioneers of this section of Chautauqua County, was its harbor "the best on the Lake." This was known to the Indians, the French of Quebec, and soldiers in Continental armies before ever a white man built a permanent home. Fishermen early made it their port; it later was set forth as the best available western end of the Erie Canal. When it was impossible to make the promoters of this history-making enterprise accept this view, successful attention was turned toward having it selected as the western terminus of a State road from New York City. The surveyors of this projected highway

set their last stake near the water's edge in Dunkirk on the day before Christmas, 1825. A quarter of a century later this movement, and its results, directly influenced the building of the Erie Railroad to the city, then promoted as "the longest railroad in the world."

Pioneers—Dunkirk, however, had been making local history long before the incorporation of this railroad. Other than the roaming hunter and trapper and parties of surveyors, the first settlement in the town of Dunkirk is considered to have been made by Seth Cole, who came west with Zattu Cushing, and in February, 1805, purchased land at the mouth of Canadaway Creek from Cushing, on which he located during the following spring. He planted a crop and carried its grain to Buffalo over the ice on Lake Erie. Going a little further back it may be pointed out that Andrew Ellicott, Surveyor General of the United States, had traversed this country in August, 1790, and that Sam Pease and his party of Holland Land Company surveyors had surveyed the Dunkirk Harbor and contiguous region in 1798. Zattu Cushing purchased Lot 29 of the Holland Company, in 1804, so due honor must be given this important figure in Chautauqua annals for the initial settlement of Dunkirk.

Of the early pioneers were Timothy Goulding to whom goes the distinction of being the first settler within the present corporate limits of the city; Solomon Chadwick, first to locate permanently on the "Harbor," and from it was derived its one-time name of Chadwick's Bay. Among other pioneers, Luther Goulding arrived in June, 1809, then came the Brighams, John, John, Jr., and Walter E., son of John Brigham, who was the first white child born in Dunkirk. Amos Gaylord and a very few neighbors had homes in this section prior to the War of 1812, when, until Commodore Perry's victory in the autumn of 1813, the British held control of Lake Erie, a fact that discouraged any further settlement of the coastal holdings of the Holland Land Company. With the exception of an affray at the mouth of Cattaraugus Creek and some defensive works at Barcelona, the town of Dunkirk was the only place in Chautauqua County to contribute a worthwhile page to the naval history of the War of 1812. Here forty men under Captain Tubb, regiment of Colonel John McMahan, fired on a boat from the British large armed schooner "Lady Provost," and prevented the landing men to seize a salt boat, one of the many which freighted salt, a most valuable necessity, on the lake for shipment to Pittsburgh and towns south.

Long years of financial depression followed the War of 1812. The summer of 1817 was known as the "Cold Season," ice being

formed during every month of that year. As a result the first six months of 1818 were called the "Starving Season," for a barrel of flour cost eighteen dollars and potatoes were a dollar and a half a bushel. Labor then earned but sixty to seventy cents a day. Dunkirk was better off, however, than many sections of Chautauqua County because fish were plentiful and hunting remained good. The brightest spot in the picture was the covered wagon whose canvas often displayed the legend "For the Holland Land Purchase." The Dunkirk-Fredonia net, drawn across the tide, caught some of these migrants.

In about 1818, Haven Brigham built the small schooner "Kingbird," which, under the command of Captain Zephaniah Perkins, carried freight between Dunkirk and Buffalo, mostly lumber from the Brigham sawmill. In 1816 a stock of store goods was landed in Chadwick's Bay for Ralph and Joseph Plumb, merchants. This being the first cargo of such a nature brought here, it was necessary to construct a temporary wharf to get it ashore. Chadwick's Bay was then considered the best harbor in New York on Lake Erie, rivaling that of Buffalo and Black Rock. In 1817, the construction of the Erie Canal was authorized by the Legislature, and Governor DeWitt Clinton thought so highly of Dunkirk's prospects that he invested in local real estate. He was not the only speculator in Dunkirk land, for at about this same time Daniel G. Garnsey purchased for a group, composed of Isaiah and John Townsend, DeWitt Clinton and a Mr. Thorn, the farms of Solomon Chadwick, Timothy and Luther Goulding, Daniel Pier and others. On their holding was platted the village, to which the name Dunkirk was given by Elisha Jenkins.

Mr. Garnsey was the first member of Congress from Chautauqua County and probably the first practicing lawyer in Dunkirk. For a short time the "Bay" bore his name, for one can read in the earliest number of the "Chautauqua Gazette" in existence, May 19, 1818, under the caption "Marine News," the names of several vessels in Garnsey's Bay. In 1818, "Walk-in-the-Water," the first steamboat on Lake Erie, began making regular stops at the harbor. John Beggs came from Scotland to Dunkirk in 1819 and built two docks. His brother, Charles, who arrived later, was evidently the first druggist in the settlement. Then there were Sampson Elton who erected the first brick house in Chautauqua County, on Front Street in 1817; Adam Fink, who made the first cast steel edged tool in the county, an axe. He was also postmaster of Dunkirk under President Andrew Jackson. Dr. Ezra Williams settled in the community in 1820, and was also a postmaster of the place under President John Quincy Adams.



(Photos by Knowlton, Dunkirk)

DUNKIRK

Top to bottom: Dan Philippbaar Residence and Store, East 3rd Street near Lion (now Main); St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church; Central Avenue looking north from Hotel Gratiot (pavement just completed), September, 1891; Hotel Gratiot, corner Central Avenue and West 4th Street, October 15, 1890; Great Elm at 81 East Front Street, August, 1919.

He was one of the founders of the old Dunkirk Academy. The "Chautauqua Gazette," of May 19, 1818, contains an advertisement dated February 17, 1818, in which under the caption "New Store," N. N. Capron advertised that he has "groceries, dry goods, hardware and crockery, also cotton and woolen goods, cotton yarn and thread, glass, mill irons, nails, iron and steel, broad and narrow axes, long draft and trace chains, and that such goods will be exchanged for lumber and grain or sold very low for cash," and that he will "pay cash for one thousand pounds of deer hair." This early merchant, Newton N. Capron, was the brother of Horace Capron, once a Commissioner of Agriculture to Japan.

The foregoing reads like the annals of a fast-growing village, especially when one considers that Dunkirk had a boom when it was hoped that it would be the terminus of the Erie Canal. The truth is that two decades after the pioneer settler Seth Cole, Dunkirk had only about a half hundred inhabitants (1825). Men make cities and not cities the men, and probably no one of the pioneers of Dunkirk more affected its destinies than Walter Smith, Wethersfield, Connecticut, Yankee, who located at Fredonia in 1819, and six years later purchased the undivided half of the Dunkirk Company for $10,000. He previously had built up a business in Fredonia of $75,000 a year.

Walter Smith—In 1826 Walter Smith moved to Dunkirk, and thereafter devoted his talent and energy to building up that hamlet. He "transferred to this theatre of action, his capital, his prestige, his remarkable talent for business and adventure. Daily stages for passengers and a wagon line for transportation were soon established between Dunkirk and Warren, Pennsylvania. Communication with Buffalo was opened by means of the 'Pioneer.' The few steamboats that then made infrequent voyages to western points, where great cities have since grown up like exhalations, were induced to call at Dunkirk for the convenience of those who were westward bound, and a new impulse was given to the general trade, travel and improvement of the country. Mr. Smith's life was a masterly and persistent struggle, always against natural obstacles, often under adverse fortunes, to build up a commercial town at Dunkirk which would vie in importance with neighboring cities on the lake."

By 1830, the population had increased six hundred per cent. over 1825, to more than three hundred. Even the refusal of the Legislature in 1826 to build the State road caused no check in growth. Walter Smith spent the winters of 1831-32 at Albany, lobbying for the

New York and Erie Railroad, a charter for which was granted April 24, 1832. Incidentally and importantly, he had written into the charter that a certain number of trains must be maintained daily into Dunkirk, a very valuable provision as time has shown. A century ago it was commonly said that "Dunkirk had no other God than Walter Smith." To him was credited the increase of population of the place to 628 in the census of 1835, a condition which led to the incorporation of the village of Dunkirk in 1837. Walter Smith lived to September 21, 1874, and therefore had the very great pleasure of seeing his dream of a railroad from New York City to Dunkirk fulfilled. Unfortunately he had to endure the loss of his personal fortune, and disaster came to his beloved Dunkirk in the financial panic of 1837 when all the banks in the United States suspended specie payment. Every place where speculation had reached the greatest heights, fell to the lowest depths. Dunkirk having its greatest boom was all but doomed. For years it did little business. Lake traffic ended except for vessels which stopped there to take on fuel. Dwellings and business houses became the home of bats and owls. Not until 1844 was a bank of issue established by A. J. Webb, and the promised railroad had already been built to Middletown, New York.

Railroads—The tale of the completion of the New York and Erie Railroad will not be retold at length here, however much it was an outstanding factor in the development of Dunkirk. The veteran historian, Obed Edson, has reported this great event in a fashion that is above improvement, and which still provides interesting and informative reading. The celebration was a glorious event with tens of thousands in attendance and many great figures in public life present, such as President Millard Fillmore, Governor Washington Hunt, most of the Federal Cabinet, members of Congress, such as Stephen Douglas, William H. Seward, Daniel Webster, and a hundred other notables. Grandiose predictions were made of the great value this road would be in cementing eternally the bonds between the North and South, and of the immediate growth of a metropolis on Dunkirk Harbor. Almost exactly a decade later, Fort Sumter was fired upon. Within a year another railroad, the Buffalo and State Line, soon thrust into the discard such fine steamers as the "Niagara," "Queen City," and the "Detroit," which navigated Lake Erie from Dunkirk to Cleveland, Toledo and Detroit. Later branch extensions of the Erie all but ended the reign of Dunkirk as a major lake port.

It is not unfair to say that Dunkirk profited from the Civil War, despite the loss of some of its stalwart men in battle. During four years of conflict it was something of a military center in southwestern New York, the place from where troops made their departure for the front. The State Arsenal and the Armory were rallying points of volunteers. Also the railroad shops expanded largely and in addition to the usual repair work began making a few locomotives and freight cars. On November 11, 1869, the Brooks Locomotive Works were incorporated, of which Horatio G. Brooks became president. The company's initial order was from the Erie Railway Company, for which twenty-seven locomotives were completed within the year. From then on Brooks locomotives were used wherever railroads were built, and the Dunkirk plant ranked among the very largest in the country.

On January 22, 1871, the first passenger train on the Dunkirk, Allegheny Valley and Pittsburgh Railroad ran from Dunkirk to the "Smoky City," thus giving the city on the lake access to the coal, oil and lumber regions, and offered further encouragement to manufacturers to establish their plants in or near the future industrial city. Dunkirk was not incorporated as a city until February 19, 1880, with Horatio Brooks as its first mayor. The town of Dunkirk had been erected from Pomfret in 1859. Other railroads later serving the city included the Western New York and Pennsylvania; New York, Chicago and St. Louis; the Nickel Plate; Lake Shore and Michigan Southern (first to double track) and electric lines were promoted, all making Dunkirk the most important railroad center in the county.

Natural gas was utilized for lighting purposes in Fredonia as early as 1821, and General Lafayette embarked from Dunkirk in 1825 to the illumination of this strange product of the earth. On September 27, 1888, electric lights were first introduced into Dunkirk, and used for power within three years. By September, 1866, the city and Fredonia were connected by horse-drawn cars. On October 29, 1891, electric power was substituted. The Spanish-American War touched Dunkirk but lightly, although the depression years of the 1890s retarded progress. In 1897, Congress appropriated nearly a half million dollars for the improvement of the harbor which helped some, and the grape crop was unusually large and valuable. Before the end of the century the city was looking forward with cheerful anticipation, and a future more assured, partly because it was learning the lesson that diversity of interests and industries made the best foundation for steady prosperity. The census of 1900 credited Dunkirk (city) with a population of 11,616.

Industrial Dunkirk—Few will question the statement that the prosperity of a city is dependent mainly upon its industries—their rise and fall and changes. A century ago agriculture, lumbering and lake shipping were the leading industries of Dunkirk, with commercial fishing coming into importance shortly after 1850. Farming began moving farther away as the settlement grew, although the village and city became increasingly the center of trade for a large agricultural area. Lumbering enjoyed a long prime, and mills turned out their products by the hundreds of thousands board feet. Fishing has continued with varying activity down to the present time. Lake shipping and the days when Dunkirk docks were numerous and busy, are almost forgotten. Their last revival came when the city was made the western end of the Erie Railroad in 1851. Within a decade thereafter most of the lake passenger traffic had practically ceased and railroads handled all but the bulkier items of freight.

The Brooks Locomotive Works came to the rescue in a critical period and for many years made Dunkirk somewhat a "one-industry city." Mention having already been made of the beginning of this important concern, its further history may be outlined as follows: It was by 1900, the fifth largest in size of the manufacturing plants in the State of New York, and the third largest west of the Hudson River. In June, 1901, the American Locomotive Works (Alco) was formed which absorbed nine locomotive works in the United States, including that at Dunkirk. Some were dismantled, some changed. In 1928 the Dunkirk plant built its last locomotive. In fifty-nine years since 1869 it had turned out 13,245 locomotives in addition to a vast amount of parts. At times four thousand three hundred men were employed; at times the demands for locomotives fell to a point where there were not enough to keep even a small plant busy. During the World War, Brooks' workmen centered their whole attention on a British contract for one and a quarter million 3.5 explosive shells and then turned out war materials for the United States Government. But a page in the history of Dunkirk's largest industry was turned in 1928, and during the past decade the genius and skill, formerly used in making locomotives, have been turned into other channels with success. The production of oil refinery machinery, steel pipe and allied products are among Alco specialties. The towers for the Tri-Borough Bridge and tunnel shields for the Hudson River Tunnel were made here.

Dunkirk is no longer a "one-industry" city. One of its major industrial concerns is the Ludlum Steel Company, or rather its local

unit. If there were more space to go into its earliest history, one would have to write of the Pompton Furnace and Foundry, founded in Pompton, New Jersey, prior to the American Revolution, which furnished Washington with cannon balls. It was not until James Ludlum was taken into partnership that the name was connected with the Colonial firm which did a big business in tool steels during the Civil War. From early days the corporation has specialized in steels of a wide variety, first with those for tools, then Silchrome valve steel, stainless steel, Nitraloy and others. "Probably ninety per cent. of all the valves in automobiles in use in the United States at this moment (August, 1937) are either a Ludlum product or of steel made under Ludlum licenses." The Dunkirk plant was established in 1907 by Edward and Charles Burgess, father and son, as the Atlas Steel Corporation. It was reorganized in 1912, as the Atlas Crucible Steel Company, and in 1922 the Campbell interests entered and the company became the Atlas Alloy Steel Corporation. In 1924, under the guidance of A. F. Dohn, Harry E. Nichols, F. B. Lounsberry, and C. P. Burgess the Atlas Steel Corporation embarked upon a successful career which led to its merger with the Ludlum Steel Company. The more recent years have brought numerous changes and improvements.

Dunkirk has won a reputation as "The Heating Center" because of its Dunkirk Radiator Corporation, the United States Radiator Corporation and the Marsh Valve Company. The Dunkirk Radiator Corporation engages in the manufacture of radiators and boilers, including the celebrated gas boiler, which bears its name. The United States Radiator Company has eight plants, that in Dunkirk being formerly known as the Harrell Steam Heating Company formed many years ago. The Marsh Valve Company furnishes all kinds of valves for buildings, its products being standard with architects and heating engineers all over the world.

The Niagara Motors Corporation, primarily engaged in the making of marine engines, has found in more recent years the manufacture of automotive replacements profitable.

The present largest employer in Dunkirk is the Van Raalte Company, although it is but one of the five plants of the company whose main offices are in New York City. It specializes in the manufacture of ladies underwear, stockings and gloves.

There are also the Sanitary Receiver Company, the Fred Koch Brewery, revived since the passing of Prohibition, the Lake Shore Seed Company, the Republic Light, Heat and Power Company, and

other industrial concerns which, while having smaller payrolls, add to the diversity of employment and help to stabilize business.

Dunkirk Schools—Frederick R. Darling, in his article "Education in Chautauqua County," has modestly refrained from stressing the very adequate provisions made by the city along educational and cultural lines. As is well known, he has been at the head of the Dunkirk schools system for nearly all of the past quarter of a century and the outstanding leader in its modern development. During his régime the tide of industries rose for a time and then ebbed, and with it the population. The State census of 1915 showed more residents of Dunkirk than did the Federal census of 1930, and the speed of the ebb of population quickened seriously during the past decade. It is noteworthy that the average school attendance increased through this period, the loss of population not being reflected in the number of pupils. It may also be pointed out that the services rendered by the school system have broadened immensely including curricula, school buildings and specialized training, far beyond anything provided in pre-World War days.

Superintendent Darling would decline to accept any major credit for all this, although the facts speak for themselves. Just a few of his accomplishments, since he was elected superintendent in 1916 were the building of school No. 7, of the new high school, the development of the Industrial High School, and the initiation of a Junior College center. He had been preceded by N. L. Engelhardt (1913-16), who followed Delmar E. Batchellar (1908-13), George M. Wiley (1905-1908), J. C. Van Etten (1902-05), E. E. Scribner (1898-1902), and W. J. Babcock (1881-98). It will be observed that from 1881 to 1940, an interval of fifty-nine years, but seven men have directed the affairs of the Dunkirk schools, the Babcock and Darling leaderships comprising nearly four-fifths of this extended period. The long continuity of activities by these two men, no doubt has been a most potent influence in affecting the progress of Dunkirk educational facilities.

The story of the Dunkirk schools prior to 1881 would make a long and interesting tale. Little is known of the first attempts of the community to teach the three "R's" to its children. As late as 1818, there were only about half a hundred inhabitants of the present site of the city, and as far as is known, it was not until 1827 that a school building was erected, this being on the south side of East Third Street between Central and Washington avenues. In it the elementary subjects were taught and any pupil wanting anything higher walked, or

was driven, three miles to Fredonia Academy, then the only institution of "higher learning" in Chautauqua County. In 1837, Dunkirk Academy was started and occupied the upper story of the first school building, erected in 1827. "Select schools" (private enterprises) were established from time to time, the best known being the Blackhan School, conducted from 1857 to 1870 by George Blackhan, his wife and her two sisters, Mrs. David Blackhan and Harriet Nolan. Until the founding of free high schools, the academy and the private establishments were the main source of secondary education.

The costs of education rested chiefly upon the shoulders of the parents of children until the 1850s, only a small amount of State aid being given. In 1853 a law was adopted permitting the establishment of Union Free School districts supported by a tax on property. On March 17, 1858, the Dunkirk Union Free School District was incorporated and a school board established on March 20. Charles Case was the first principal, and eight teachers were employed at wages ranging from $4.50 to $6.00 per week. School No. 1 was completed in 1857; No. 2 in 1866, and appropriations for schools Nos. 3 and 4 made in 1866, and No. 5 in 1868, respectively, only No. 5 costing as much as $10,000. No. 6 was started in a rented building in 1883. In 1875 an Act of the Legislature made the Dunkirk Union Free School District conterminous with the town of Dunkirk, which brought into the area three small schools. Appropriations for No. 10 were made in 1879. The original cost of these ten schools, together with additions and changes up to 1881, was not as great as that paid for an "addition" to the Academy in 1896—$62,219.29.

One name stands out in the history of the Dunkirk school system from 1837 to 1905—Williams. Dr. Ezra Williams was a member of the board of trustees of "The Academy" established in 1837. His son, Dr. Julien T. Williams was, in 1858, largely instrumental in the incorporation of the Dunkirk Union Free School District; was named a member of the first board of education, on which he served with the exception of a few years until his death in 1905, acting as president over most of this long period. He is often called the "Father of the Dunkirk schools."

How grade schools came to be supplemented by high and vocational schools that provide a bewildering variety of curricula and student activities is another and too long story. The Industrial High School, chartered June 22, 1934, when Dunkirk was the first of the third class cities in the United States "to attempt the independent organization of a complete industrial high school service" is the most

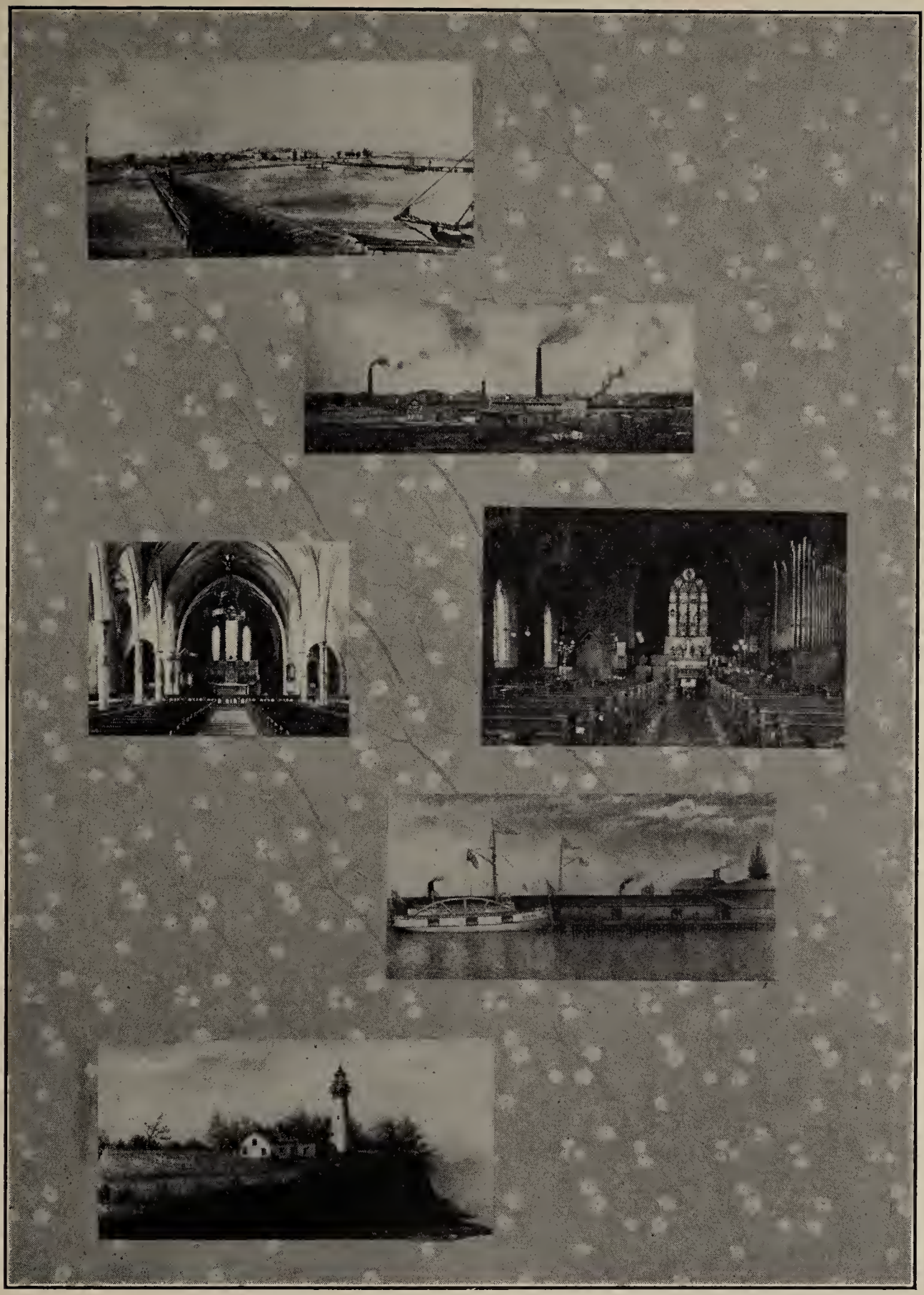
significant recent development in the history of local education. In 1937 the sum of $45,000 was voted to construct this unit.

Churches—Schools and churches usually go hand in hand in the early settlement of a community, but in Dunkirk religious organizations seem to have been slower in getting established than provisions for education. Was it because the city had not been started like the Puritan towns of Colonial times, where the minister was the center and often the overlord of the community? Was it because of the rather small, diverse and inconstant early population during the first two decades of its history? Or was it because there was a modicum of truth in the statement of an itinerant preacher of old who in his wrath, because only two attended one of his services, cried out that he would flee the place because its sins were like unto those of the Egyptians? The truth seems to be that it was not unlike any other frontier hamlet of its time; it had to have people before church organizations could be maintained. From 1825 to 1830, Dunkirk increased from fifty to three hundred inhabitants; during the following five years the population more than doubled. It is more than coincidental that the year 1830 marked the beginnings of at least three denominations in Dunkirk.

The first church in Dunkirk was the present First Baptist Church, founded March 17, 1830, mainly by Baptists from neighboring Fredonia, although the group was not formally recognized until May 5 of that same year. In all, twenty of its twenty-two members were from the Fredonia church, and it was a quarter of a century before it owned a meetinghouse and twenty-one years before this property was free from debt. Only after heroic efforts against untoward conditions, even the elements entering the picture, was the edifice dedicated on June 14, 1855.

The First Presbyterian Church was organized on May 22, 1830, with ten charter members, and in the fall of that same year the Rev. Timothy Stillman was called as the first pastor. Within six years the congregation had built a house of worship on Central Avenue and East Third Street. The location of the present church on West Fourth Street dates from 1857.

The First Methodist Church, traditionally grew out of a class held in Dunkirk in 1830. There is a record of July 23, 1838, that the Wesleyan Society of the First Methodist Church met in the "Academy" in the village. Prior to 1853 this society was associated with Fredonia and Portland in pastoral supervision. Since that year



(Photos by Knowlton, Dunkirk)

DUNKIRK

Reading from top down and from left to right: Dunkirk in 1835 from Buffalo Street Dock (from an oil painting); Brooks Locomotive Works (from negative by George A. H. Eggers); interior view of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church; interior St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church; Propeller "Olean" at Buffalo Street Dock, 1865; Old Light House and keeper's residence, Point Gratiot (from a pen drawing by George A. H. Eggers).

it has been a separate appointment and its first church site on East Fourth Street was chosen in 1853. In 1859 a commodious brick building was erected and used until 1918, when the beautiful stone church was completed on the corner of Sixth Street and Washington Avenue. A German Methodist Church, founded in 1909, soon united with the First Methodist congregation.

St. John's Episcopal Church can look back to the day when one Rev. Daniel Brown volunteered for missionary work in western New York. Settling in Fredonia he reported in 1823 that he had held services in many parts of Chautauqua County, including Dunkirk. By 1853 there were enough Episcopalians in the village to encourage the organization of a parish, which was effected July 29, of that year. The records of the building of the first church edifice are lost. It is reported, however, that by January 22, 1859, the church, free from incumbrances, was consecrated by the Right Rev. Samuel McCrosky, Bishop of Michigan, in the absence of Bishop DeLancey. The present church was erected in 1867, but not consecrated until St. John the Baptist Day, 1882.

St. John's Evangelical Church grew out of meetings held regularly by German-speaking Evangelicals as early as 1856, in which year the group called a minister. Its first house of worship was dedicated on October 30, 1859, on the same site at East Fourth and Leopard streets. The corner stone of the present church was laid, July 24, 1904. On October 31, 1931, St. John's became a member of the Evangelical Synod of North America. Since June 26, 1934, when this body merged with the Reformed Church in the United States, St. John's has been officially known as an Evangelical and Reformed Church.

Zion Evangelical Church celebrated the seventy-fifth anniversary of its founding in 1938, having started as a mission in 1863. Its present church property on Park Avenue was purchased in 1864, and the edifice dedicated by Bishop Esher in 1866.

Grace Lutheran Church was initiated in January, 1902, by English-speaking Lutherans. Rev. G. G. Ruff, became pastor in December of that year and the group held services in the Odd Fellows Hall until 1905, when a modest church was erected. A new edifice was consecrated in November, 1925, at a cost of $85,000. Three years later fire caused damage estimated at $20,000, but reconstruction began at once.

Adams Memorial Church commemorates the life and works of the Rev. E. P. Adams, its founder and first pastor, who for nearly two decades prior to his death in 1897, served well the congregation

which met first in 1880. It was founded by liberal members of the Presbyterian faith, and is affiliated with the National Conference of Unitarians and other liberal churches. The meetinghouse was built during the pastorate of T. Clinton Brockway (1897-1905).

The Swedish Lutheran Church was organized April 24, 1903. The Dunkirk Church of Christ was founded in the late summer of 1903 by the Rev. Stephen J. Corey, State Secretary for the Disciples of Christ. The congregation met at various places until October 23, 1907, when the Free Methodist Church was purchased. This building was destroyed by fire on January 19, 1918, and worship was continued in a remodeled house until May 23, 1926, when the present church was dedicated. With the history of St. Paul's, the Christian Science, the Hebrew Community, and several other religious bodies, the writer is unacquainted.

The story of the rise and growth of Catholic institutions has been told comprehensively in the article in this work by President Thomas Plassmann, of St. Bonaventure College and Seminary. Dunkirk has been a stronghold of the church in Chautauqua County since 1848, and the first official visit of the Bishop of Buffalo, the Right Rev. John Timon, D. D. There are now five flourishing parishes in the city: St. Mary's, Sacred Heart, St. Hyacinth's, St. Hedwig's, and Holy Trinity, ministering to English-speaking German, Polish and Italian Catholics. Efficient schools are maintained; two homes for orphaned boys and girls, another home for aged ladies; two monasteries of the Passionist Fathers; all the result of indefatigable zeal and untiring labors of the Catholics of Dunkirk and southwestern New York.

Cultural Institutions—The temptation is strong to write at length of many other features of Dunkirk life that have made for its better development, but limitations of space prevent. There is the Dunkirk Free Library, which has gone along with the churches and the schools in promoting cultural advancement. Books available to the pioneer of a century ago were few and not freely circulated. The latter problem was solved somewhat by the coöperative buying and lending of books by those who had means. In 1872, a few citizens formed the Dunkirk Library Association and the expansion of the interchange of books on a paid basis. The idea and association led precarious existences kept alive by the aid of various other organizations. The "free" library dates from May 9, 1898, when Horatio G. and Julia A. Brooks transferred to the Young Men's Association the splendid Brooks homestead property on the corner of Central Avenue and

Sixth Street, for so long as the Young Men's Association should maintain thereon a "hospital or a free library, or both." Thus the foundation of the present Dunkirk Free Library was established. It opened to the public under this name on January 11, 1899. The quarters soon proved too small for both books and readers. In 1904 Andrew Carnegie was persuaded to make Dunkirk one of his numerous library benefactions. In fulfilling the requirements of this gift the Brooks Memorial Library was consolidated with the Dunkirk Free Library. It has grown amazingly through the years in all phases of its work.

The library has enlisted the support and leadership of exceptionally broad-visioned citizens and trustees, as officials, as active personnel. Obviously all, or even the larger part of these cannot be named here, but tribute must be paid to Miss Caroline Monchow, librarian from January, 1900 to June 15, 1934, under whose intelligent and devoted service the annual issue of volumes grew from thirty-five thousand to eighty thousand in thirty-three years.

While the newspaper is not usually named as one of the institutions outstanding in the history of a city, the "Dunkirk Evening Observer" assuredly deserves such a rating. For more than half a century it has not only recorded the story of the city as it unfolded but has helped make the story it recorded. "In its veins runs the blood of early newspapers which flourished many years ago and played important parts in the affairs of Chautauqua County," although it was an independent enterprise initiated in 1882 by Dr. Julien T. Williams, son of Dr. Ezra and Sarah King Clark Williams, of previous mention as pioneers in several phases of the early life of Dunkirk. A. G. Parker was associated with Dr. J. T. Williams. On November 1, 1889, Henry K. Williams became associated with his father in the Dunkirk Printing Company, by purchase of the Parker interest. He served as business manager before he became president. Gerald B. Williams, as a reporter and city editor, joined the company in 1900, being elected vice-president and secretary. Since 1905 he has been editor of the "Dunkirk Evening Observer." Henry K. Williams, Jr., has been business manager for some years. The "Grape Belt," founded in Westfield, in 1882, was purchased by the Dunkirk Printing Company, in 1899, and combined with the "Chautauqua Farmer." The general history of newspapers in the county is related elsewhere in this volume.

Whole chapters could be written about organized activities in Dunkirk; the Young Men's Association which quickly outgrew its youth; the old Board of Trade; the Chamber of Commerce and other busi-

ness groups, all of which have made noteworthy contributions to local progress and betterment. The County Fair is the prized fruitage of the labors of many groups in the city, and antedates the most of them. While fairs in the county date back at least to 1872, it was Dunkirk that revived the enterprise in 1880, and has since been the backbone of its expansion to a high rating in New York State.

CHAPTER XXXIII

Women's Activities in Chautauqua County

By Mrs. Eliza Rieger

In writing of women's activities in Chautauqua County, one naturally begins with the early days of the suffrage movement and the Political Equality Club. But, doubtless, back of this is a fair vista of noble and helpful effort among the pioneer women of this section, ever working for the betterment of their homes, schools, and churches; in fact, all things that would bring about a higher standard of living in their communities. In those days, nursing, quilting, butchering, and husking, all belonged in the public welfare or social service class, carried on by kindly neighbors instead of government employees. There must have been many germs of independent thought amongst them, and now and then a suggestion that since they bore so large a share in keeping the homes and churches going, women might help a little with the government, as it seemed more and more to invade the home and family affairs.

However, or by whomever, the seeds were sown, they flowered at an early date into a hardy and enduring organization, which fought through long, discouraging years of opposition with patient and persistent education until the last battle, "National Suffrage," was won. It is a long and interesting story, and all the early years have been chronicled in quite complete detail in former county histories. All who write on this subject must go back to the authentic records, letters, and newspaper articles kept by the faithful women most prominent in the cause. The papers of Mrs. Martha Henderson, the first county president, and of Mrs. Elnora Babcock, first president of the Dunkirk club and second president of the county organization, have been the best preserved, and we acknowledge our indebtedness to the writers of earlier local histories who have had these, as well as other records, to draw from. We are also indebted to Miss Lucia T. Henderson, of Jamestown, and Miss Maude Babcock, of Dunkirk, for the loan of

their mothers' material, and for the use of an article Miss Babcock wrote for the "Centennial Edition of the Dunkirk Observer," which gives a hitherto untold side of the work.

The story of the Political Equality Club rightly begins with its organization, in November of 1887, at the home of Mrs. Daniel Griswold, with Mary Seymour Howell, who had given a most inspiring address the night before in Institute Hall, Jamestown, as the moving force. Mrs. D. H. Grandin was made president; Mrs. R. N. Thompson, secretary, and Mrs. C. W. Scofield, treasurer, thus becoming the first officers of a club which carried on in full marching order for thirty years. The membership rapidly increased and their zeal knew no bounds, for by 1888 nearly every town in the county had a branch club. On August 16, 1888, meetings in the afternoon and evening were held in Allen's Opera House, addressed by Susan B. Anthony, that great mother of woman's rights, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who ruined several books in her father's law library, tearing out the leaves which had laws printed on them discriminating against women, and whom we have to thank for the first law granting married women property rights. Before her continued effort year after year going to Albany to plead our cause, husbands owned and controlled everything we had, even though the property or money came to us from our father or mother.

How many young women of today ever think of the unselfish labor that has been expended to make them the most protected and independent women of the world? It is no wonder that two such women were able to stir the club to fresh endeavor and, on October 31, 1888, the county Political Equality Club was formed and Chautauqua became the first county to be so organized. Mrs. Martha Henderson was the first county president; Mrs. Anna C. Shaw, of Kennedy, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Kate S. Thompson, of Jamestown, recording secretary. From this time on annual and semi-annual meetings were held and the list of those who addressed these meetings contains the names of a galaxy of gallant campaigners, not only known and honored in America, but in many countries throughout the world. And the list of officers elected each year is also a list to be remembered and honored as those who served their generation well. The club always seemed to have something they were working for along with suffrage, and in 1889 the women of Jamestown decided to try and elect two women to the school board. Their candidates were Mrs. Daniel Griswold and Mrs. R. N. Thompson, both highly accomplished women. Both were elected and later reëlected. A like effort was made in

Dunkirk, but was not successful, and not until after suffrage was won did we finally get two women on the Dunkirk school board. As Dunkirk was organized about this time, we will let Miss Babcock tell the story:

The Dunkirk Woman Suffrage Movement was organized in 1889, under the name of "Political Equality Club." The direct inspiration was a county convention held in Temperance Hall, and Normal Chapter, Fredonia, with Mrs. Martha Henderson, Jamestown, presiding officer, and Rev. Anna H. Shaw principal speaker. (Mrs. Henderson was mother of Miss Lucia T. Henderson, now head of the Jamestown Public Library.)

The Dunkirk club was soon formed and able to take part in a semi-annual convention at Jamestown, in Grand Army of Republic Hall, where the principal speaker was Mrs. Zerelda G. Wallace, of Indiana, mother of General Lew Wallace, author of "Ben Hur."

These early Political Equality clubs were marked by strict adherence to parliamentary law, close attention to dues and campaign contributions, and by careful program planning. Two lines of work appealed at once to the average member. First, spirited school board elections, for which women put up their own candidates, gave a local incentive, since conservative domestic women regarded the education of children, both at school and at home, as their legitimate field.

Secondly, members were kept informed on every phase of suffrage, or the lack of it, both at home and abroad, and were given every opportunity to work by making reports, passing and sending resolutions and distributing literature. Interesting scrapbooks of those early days show that every meeting featured a short drill in civic government and usually individual quotations.

During one year the club made some forty reports of meetings in Dunkirk and the county, and distributed one hundred pieces of literature. This was when literature was scarce and was not sent out wholesale by a national committee. The Dunkirk club knew how to make money and spend it. The scrapbook states that Dunkirk gave forty-five dollars for campaign work to the county treasurer in 1894, the strategic year of the State Constitutional Convention, when heroic efforts were made throughout the State to collect signatures of people favoring the incorporation of a woman suffrage clause.

Dunkirk meetings were held at least once a month, usually twice, and were enlivened by refreshments and a social time, when young daughters of members assisted in a fine spirit of comradeship.

An interesting example of a winter's program follows:

December 6—"Single Tax," paper by T. A. B. Morris, proprietor of a Central Avenue shop.

January 3—"Free Coinage of Silver," by B. L. Harrison, an old-time resident of Washington Avenue.

January 31—"Ideal Municipal Government," by the Rev. E. P. Adams, pastor of what became Adams Memorial Church.

February 28—"The Kindergarten as Character Builder," by Mrs. Elizabeth Richmond, sister of Jennie and Adelaide Herrick, the latter once head of the kindergarten department at the Fredonia Normal School.

March 28—"Proportional Representation," by E. P. Harris, founder of the "Grape Belt."

Other local talent of note included Dr. F. B. Palmer, principal of the Normal School, and several professors from the same school; Dr. Isabella Stanley, a woman physician, on "Revolutionary Women"; the scholarly Mr. Hendricks, on "Political Parties of the Civil War"; Mrs. Julia James, president of the Dunkirk Woman's Christian Temperance Union, on "Prohibition"; Miss Flora Pierce, on "Colonial Women"; Mrs. Lucas, on "The True Mission of Man," a caricature of Charles Parkhurst's "The True Mission of Women"; Mrs. Mary Thomas, on "Women of the Rebellion," and Miss Nettie Pasho, on "Progress of the Colonies Up to the Revolution."

The club's large membership included such well known names of women of broad culture as Mary Hiller Stearns, Fanny Hayward, Emma B. Hamilton, Louise Kern, Mary Mullett, Nancy Honian, Georgia McBride, Mrs. Henry Smith, and that picturesque character in old-fashioned garb, Augusta Buckley.

During one winter debates on following subjects provided lively interest: "Should the Columbian Exposition Keep Open on Sundays?", "Should Immigration Be Restricted?", "Should There Be An Educational Qualification For Voting?" Laws on prison labor, the present ballot and naturalization laws were also discussed.

The leading spirit in the Dunkirk club was its president, Mrs. Elnora M. Babcock, of Washington Avenue, who gave unsparingly of her strength until failing health compelled her to pass the torch on to hands better fitted to complete the task. Two high points in Mrs. Babcock's local work were: The second annual county convention held in 1890, the first large public meeting of its kind ever held in the Women's Union. Mrs. Babcock was made county president, and Mrs. C. C. Parker, of Dunkirk, corresponding secretary. Dr. J. T. Williams, of Dunkirk, gave the address of welcome, and Mrs. Sarah Perkins, of the Case School of Applied Science, was the speaker.

The county club had now grown to comprise twenty-five local clubs, and with a membership of one thousand four hundred, attained the honor of being the first and largest (in point of membership) county to be organized for suffrage in the United States. The second point

was the State convention, royally entertained in Dunkirk in November, 1899. Mayor Alexander Williams welcomed the guests, while Dr. Julien T. Williams and Hon. S. Fred Nixon, of Westfield, made stirring speeches.

Mrs. Babcock continued her work as press superintendent, first for the county, then for the State, then for the Nation, and the busy home at Washington Avenue saw thousands of articles and clippings sent to friendly newspapers all over the United States. As a tribute to her work, Mrs. Babcock's name was placed by the League of Women Voters on the New York State Honor Roll in the Capitol Building at Albany.

The pioneers had finished their task of laying a foundation, but at best could convert only a minority. It remained for more spectacular suffragette methods to interest the masses, especially the stay-at-homes, but that is another story, as is also the cleavage of ideas which now appear both in consent and in method.

During the summer of 1890, after much correspondence with the Chautauqua management, the request by the organization for a place on their program was granted. The first meeting witnessed a large gathering of clubs from all over the county and those were days when you drove the family horse and buggy over dusty or muddy roads and had to start early in order to be there on time. Mrs. Elnora Babcock, president at that time, presided. Bishop Vincent welcomed the club in happy manner. The speakers list included again those "Generals" of the Suffrage Army, Susan B. Anthony, Zerelda G. Wallace, Anna Howard Shaw, and Kate O. Peate. About this time Wyoming was received in the Union of States and came in with woman's suffrage in her constitution, the first State to do so. A song was sung during the session entitled "Welcome Wyoming," written by Amanda T. Cheney, of Poland Center. Frances Willard, writing Miss Anthony a few days later from the assembled grounds said: "Dearest Susan: I could sing 'hallelujah!' over you and Anna Shaw and 'Deborah' Wallace! It was the best and biggest day Chautauqua ever had." From that day on, Political Equality Day, or its counterpart, has been on the Chautauqua program.

This same year, directly through the efforts of Mrs. Marion T. Skidmore, Lily Dale also set apart a day for the discussion of woman's rights. In her biography, Miss Anthony says of that first day:

> People came from far and near. Fully three thousand were assembled in that beautiful amphitheatre, decorated with yellow, the suffrage color, and the red, white and blue. There, hanging by itself,

was our national flag, ten by fourteen feet, with its red and white stripes, and in the center of the blue corner just one great golden star, Wyoming, blazing out alone. Every cottage in the camp was festooned with yellow, and when at night the Chinese lanterns were lighted on the piazzas, it was as gorgeous as any Fourth of July celebration, and all in honor of Woman's Day and her coming freedom.

A long procession of the country's most able speakers and "defenders of the faith" in equality for women marched across the platforms of these two assemblies. It would be difficult to estimate the amount of sentiment that was made for the cause at these two famous institutions. The newspapers of the county were almost entirely with the suffrage movement and grateful acknowledgment is made, all through the records of their meetings, to the splendid men who helped through speeches, through the introduction of bills at Albany, and through financial aid.

During 1891 the club made a strong effort to get a bill, giving women the right to vote for county school commissioners, passed at Albany. The bill was drawn up by Dr. J. T. Williams, of Dunkirk, and our Hon. W. C. Gifford, then member of Assembly, and Hon. J. T. Edwards, in the Senate, helped greatly in getting it accepted. The following year the Jamestown club put in nomination Mrs. Martha R. Almy, a staunch suffragist and very able woman, for county school commissioner in the Third District. They worked very hard, but Mrs. Almy was defeated and, at about the same time, the law was pronounced unconstitutional by the Court of Appeals.

Their next arduous task was to bring every pressure to bear on the Constitutional Convention, held in 1894, to submit an amendment striking out the word "male" from our State Constitution as a qualification for citizenship. The women of the State secured six hundred thousand names to a petition, the Chautauqua Club securing 13,993, and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of the county one thousand five hundred additional. The canvass for these names revealed the fact that there were 4,627 women in the county paying taxes on $4,618,655 worth of real estate, and on $532,912 of personal property. It would be interesting to know how the figures would stand today, if anyone could be found to spend the time to look it up. In a previous history of the county, the records of the annual and semi-annual meetings, where they were held, and the officers that were elected, is faithfully told and stretches over the period of time from 1885 to 1913-14, when the campaign for the passage of a State constitutional amendment allowing women to vote in New York State

came on the stage of action with many new actors and new methods. Anyone who has had any experience in trying to sustain interest in a cause over a long period will realize what a heroic task the women of the Political Equality Club accomplished.

The following women served as president of the county organization in the order named: Mrs. Martha Henderson, Mrs. Elnora M. Babcock, Mrs. Eveline R. Clarke, Mrs. Ellen Cheney, Mrs. Martha Fuller Prather, Miss Nettie Sherwin. The first five of these served under the banner of the Political Equality Club. But while Miss Sherwin was county president, at the twenty-fifth annual county convention, held in the Methodist Church at Chautauqua, August 27, 1912, the name of the club was changed to "Chautauqua County Woman's Suffrage Party," and a little different form of organization adopted. Instead of county president, there were first and second assembly district leaders, and Miss Sherwin was chosen leader of the first district, and Mrs. Nellie Erb leader of the second district; recording secretary, Mrs. Edith Cheney; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Myrtle Nelson; treasurer, Mrs. Marietta Rhodes. In 1913 and 1914 the two successive legislatures passed the bills which it required to submit the constitutional amendment giving women the suffrage in New York State to the voters.

Thus, the winter of 1913 and 1914 witnessed unusual activity amongst the suffragists in preparation for the 1915 campaign. On April 22, 1914, the county woman's suffrage convention was called to order in Eagle Temple, Jamestown, by first assembly district leader, Miss Sherwin, and twenty-five delegates being present. Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt made the address of the afternoon, and Mrs. Shuler, leader of the eighth judicial district, gave instructions in working methods. A constitution for county assembly districts was adopted, and in August of 1914 the first suffrage street meeting was held in Jamestown, with Miss Harriet May Mills as speaker. Miss Mills also spoke in neighboring villages, for the time had come when the cause could no longer be carried on in the dignified seclusion of the home or hall, where mostly those that already believed congregated, but had to be taken into the by-ways and street corners, where the attention of the passerby, who would be called on to vote on the subject in 1915, could hear some of the reasons why he should vote "Yes." The so-called suffragettes of England had taught us a lesson. No cause succeeds until it is front-page news, and to get people to talking or thinking about the matter at all, publicity had to be achieved, and suffragette stunts proved their right to approval by what they

accomplished. The long years of earnest pleading in the most lady-like way laid the foundation, but to finally achieve national suffrage here, as in England, it took Mrs. Pankhurst, with her violent annoyance of government officials, and our own noble Edith Ainge, of James-



(Photo by Globe Photo Co., Courtesy of the Chautauqua County Historical Society)

FIRST M. E. CHURCH, CHANDLER AND 2ND STREETS, JAMESTOWN, ERECTED IN 1829. STEEPLE ADDED IN 1854. TAKEN DOWN IN 1855

town, who was arrested and sent to prison, where she was treated none too well, for carrying a quotation from the United States Constitution on a placard, up and down in front of the White House. England has since honored Mrs. Pankhurst by a statue in the Hall of Fame. I hope some day our country will so honor the members of

the woman's party thrown into jail for peaceful petition for citizenship and a voice in a government of the people. There is a bronze tablet in the Capitol at Albany which enshrines the names of many of the suffrage leaders of the State. I wish Chautauqua County might have one in our courthouse, with the fine pioneer souls listed as tireless workers, and Edith Ainge as the martyr to the cause.

Miss Ainge spent many years in Washington at the headquarters of the National Woman's Party and served as its national treasurer. This organization still has a fine home at the Capital and continually works for the recognition and advancement of women. I should also like to record the splendid efforts and achievement of Mrs. George Tiffany and her band of workers who served under the National Woman's Party, or State Woman's Political Union. Fredonia had long had many good suffragists, with Louis McKinistry, editor of the "Fredonia Censor," always giving them space and encouragement in his paper. However, it fell to Mrs. Tiffany to rally such workers as Mrs. H. A. Clark, Mrs. Charlotte Landers, Miss Annie Skinner, Miss Bell Tiffany, now Mrs. Southerland, and Mrs. and Miss Wiley (to mention a few) to the work, and Fredonia was so well canvassed and sown with literature on the subject that it was carried handsomely when the votes were counted, both in 1915 and 1917. The woman's party was launched by Mrs. Harriot Stanton Blatch, daughter of that beloved and ardent early suffragist, Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Mrs. Blatch came to this country just about this time, after a residence of some years in England, where she had taken active part both in the campaign to extend suffrage to a farm labor class and also some part in the campaign under Mrs. Pankhurst, and so it was natural that her party should take on the more modern and aggressive type of work. It was under her State organization that Jane Pincus came into the county to organize "Street Meetings," "Flying Squads," and "Tent Brigades."

The Chautauqua County Woman's Suffrage Party still carried on as loyally as before, under the leadership of Mrs. Catt, nationally, Mrs. Whitehouse for the State, Mrs. Shuler for the district, and such local women as Miss Sherwin and Mrs. Hermes L. Ames and Mrs. Nellie Erb. At the convention held at Mayville, May 24, 1914, Mrs. Gertrude Nelson Andrews, whose home was in New York City, where she had been very active in club work and organizing for the suffrage campaign, was elected to the office of second assembly district leader, and brought to the work a fine personality, experience as an organizer, ability as a speaker and a writer, having had both books and plays

published, and so was able to create attractive publicity for the papers. Her organization of this assembly district was so efficient that it not only did the suffrage campaign in well organized manner, but took the military census in this side of the county, bore its share of Red Cross work, bond selling for the government, and other war activities. They composed the nucleus for the League of Women Voters, after suffrage was won, that for some ten years carried on a non-partisan study of government and public questions, and worked for all the bills which were for the betterment of women and children.

Mrs. Andrews' summer home being at Lily Dale, she gathered a large number of friends to the cause there who helped in every way, even to giving bean suppers to raise money. Mrs. Andrews also managed a large mass meeting in the Old Masonic Hall in Dunkirk, where Mrs. Philip Snowden, of England, and Congresswoman Helen Ring Robinson, from Colorado, spoke, at which time several hundred dollars were pledged for the work. The activity during the summer of 1915 was very strenuous with street meetings, sending out literature, interviewing politicians and candidates, gathering signatures of women favorable to suffrage, and such spectacular events as Mrs. Blatch and Mrs. Havemeyer touring the State with a replica of the torch which the Statue of Liberty in New York Bay holds in her hand, and asking that it be lighted with true liberty for women as well as men. The suffragists of each district furnished the transportation for this caravan, and during some very exciting evening street meetings in Dunkirk, the speakers were interrupted by some saloon rowdies while speaking in the First Ward, but were given immediate protection and backing by the very fine priest who was in charge of St. Hyacinth's Church in that ward. Mrs. Rieger, being in charge of the Dunkirk district at that time, persuaded her suffrage husband, Dr. Joseph Rieger, and Leslie A. Pease, a prominent lawyer, to transport the cavalcade to Buffalo the next morning for a noon meeting, which was to be held in Genesee Square. After a trip on very rough and muddy roads and a puncture on the way, they made the appointed place at twelve o'clock, and the men were arranging the car for the speakers when a "Buffalo Express" cameraman snapped their picture and printed it under the heading of "Ardent Suffragettes of Western New York." Thus did we make martyrs of our good suffrage husbands.

Many of us at that time found ourselves working for two organizations, "The New York State Woman's Political Union," and "The New York State Woman's Suffrage Association," both for the same cause, however. Our breakfast mail was sometimes a headache, with

so many new ideas and demands, we did not know which to do first, and we found that New York officers (Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt was one at that time) had very little idea of up-State geography, and seemed to think we could take a subway train every five minutes to any part of western New York to interview some one or arrange for a meeting. Every nerve was strained for that 1915 referendum, and Chautauqua County had the joy of carrying it by a majority of 2,667, and was the banner county of the State. During the winter of 1915, Mrs. Gertrude Nelson Andrews moved to California, and the work for the next referendum in this part of the county fell on the shoulders of Mrs. Joseph Rieger, who had assisted Mrs. Andrews during the previous campaign and who, after suffrage was won, organized the League of Women Voters for political study, and helped to carry that club work on for the ten years of its existence. Mrs. Rieger also entered the ranks of the Republican party and became active in politics.

We have dwelt somewhat more at length on the work in the northwest side of the county because the work in the first assembly district seemed to be more fully written up in previous histories. But, before we finish, we must go back and take a look at the work accomplished there. The 1915 referendum was lost in the State, but another bill, submitting it again, was immediately jammed, as it were, through the legislatures of 1915 and 1916, and again the workers sighed and girded on fresh armor for a final victory in 1917. Early in 1915 the young women of Jamestown formed an organization known as the Campaign Club, with Miss May Gellstrom as chairman. Another group of young ladies was formed, called the city committee, with Miss Marian Patterson as chairman. These two organizations worked in harmony and coöperated with Mrs. Hermes Ames, who had charge of rural communities. These spirited young women, with their fine personalities and novel ideas made a splendid showing in both campaigns.

The annual convention of the county organization for 1916 was held in Jamestown on May 15th. Miss Sherwin, declining reëlection, Mrs. Hermes Ames was elected leader in the first district; vice-leader, Miss Marian Patterson; second vice-leader, Mrs. George L. McClelland; secretary, Mrs. Alfred G. Haynes, who also acted as press agent for the county and did a fine piece of work. The treasurer was again Mrs. Marietta Rhodes, who served fourteen years in that office. At this same convention the officers elected for the second assembly district were as follows: Leader, Mrs. Joseph Rieger, of Dunkirk; vice-leader, Mrs. C. C. Fairchild, of Silver Creek; second vice-leader,

Mrs. Nellie Lonquest, of Sheridan; secretary, Mrs. E. L. Caflisch, of Clymer; treasurer, Mrs. E. Noth Jones, of Lily Dale.

One of the things accomplished between this convention and the 1917 successful campaign was the enrollment of twelve thousand names in this county of women favorable to suffrage. These names, posted on large sheets of cardboard, were carried on that famous parade of suffragists in New York City. Monthly conferences were held by the leaders. A debate was arranged at Ashville between the famous anti-suffragist, Lucy Price, and Dorothy Thompson, a suffrage organizer, and now a famous newspaper writer, and another at Chautauqua, where Miss Price and Mrs. Forbes Robertson Hale presented their opposing views. A local organizer, Mrs. Gertrude C. Wilcox, was engaged for a year on salary and worked in every township. A suffrage school was held in Jamestown and every conceivable form of legitimate entertainment resorted to in raising money to spread the propaganda, and so it was with proud and thankful hearts that the women of good, old Chautauqua marched up to the final victory in the referendum of 1917, with a majority of 3,583. To mention all those worthy of a place in the suffrage hall of fame would be like calling the roll of most of the fine men and women of the county, and would fill a book. Among the many were such notables as: Mrs. Frank Stowell, Mrs. Ora Caflisch, Mrs. C. C. Fairchild, Mrs. Emily Hunt, Mrs. A. H. Guest, Mrs. Marcus Sackett, Miss Julia Shepard, Mrs. Emma Davis, Mrs. Dorothy Henderson, Mrs. John Campbell, Mrs. Frank Scott, Mrs. Minnie Morgan, Mrs. Fanny Rice, Mrs. Alice Rickenbrodt, Mrs. Perry Mason, Mrs. C. H. Waterhouse, Mrs. Evelyn Dorman, Mrs. Nellie Lonquest, Mrs. A. M. Geiger, Miss Emma W. Goodman, Mrs. Mary McCubbin Hall, Mrs. Esther Bronson, Miss Laura Skinner, Mrs. Thomas Usborn, Mrs. Georgia Skinner, Mrs. W. L. Swain, Mrs. A. W. Ottoway. Numerous others already have been mentioned.

While the story of women's activities in Chautauqua County may begin with their work for suffrage, it cannot end there. There is the wonderful Crusade Union of Fredonia, where the Woman's Christian Temperance Union first came into being on December 13, 1873, and later encircled the world with its white ribbon and its work for temperance. It is a tale well known in this county by the older inhabitants, and is retold in another chapter in this volume.

There is the Woman's Christian Association of Fredonia, incorporated in May, 1892. Mrs. Lorenzo Morris, president; Mrs. George R. Moore, secretary, and Mrs. Squire White, treasurer.

Through the liberality of Mrs. Morris and A. O. Putnam, the association has established a "Home for Aged Women," where, by paying a certain amount of money, they may be cared for comfortably the rest of their lives. This was one of the first such homes to be established in New York State, and is being carried on successfully by the women of the association. Later, a home of the same kind was established in Jamestown, which is wonderfully well managed by women and fills an ever-growing need.

Prominent among the benevolent organizations of Jamestown is the Woman's Christian Association, organized September 8, 1884, which was the founder of the Woman's Christian Association Hospital and the parent of the present Young Women's Christian Association.

Another Dunkirk woman's organization, this one with its aim—social service—was the Women's Educational and Industrial Union. It was formed in the spring of 1888, when sixty-five women met at the home of Mrs. William Bookstaver and signed as charter members. The aims of this organization, as set forth in its act of incorporation, were: to increase fellowship among women, in order to promote the best practical methods for securing their educational, industrial, and social advancements. This was accomplished by: 1. Organizing and maintaining classes in educational and industrial branches. 2. Maintaining a registry for the employment of women. 3. Assisting poor women to collect debts and to establish their legal rights. 4. Assisting the worthy poor. 5. Giving courses of lectures on various topics, and social entertainment.

In 1889 the union was incorporated, as it was the desire of the members to build a home for its activities. This building, to the cost of which Edward Dickie was the largest individual donor, represented a total expenditure of twelve thousand dollars. During the World War, the building was made the headquarters for the Red Cross for Fredonia, Westfield, Silver Creek, Stockton, Forestville and Brocton. Before, and after the war, the dance hall atop the building was used as a social hall and many brilliant events took place there. During the last decade of its existence, many societies and clubs and one restaurant occupied the building. The organization carried on its social and business activities in its building until 1923, when active work by its members stopped. Last fall the organization disbanded and turned over its assets, in the form of trust funds, to the Dunkirk Free Library and to the Brooks Memorial Hospital.

The chapters of Daughters of the American Revolution in Fredonia and Dunkirk, and, I believe, the one in Westfield, were organ-

ized under the national society before New York State had a State chapter. This county has several chapters now and they have accomplished many fine things in the marking of historic spots and the preservation of historic papers.

No history of the women of Chautauqua would be complete without the story of their early appreciation of the advantage of adult education and cultural activities. The club spirit grew strong all over the county, and literary, art and music clubs were formed. In fact, the women of Chautauqua pioneered in this form of education, and these clubs were amongst the first and largest in the State. The Mozart Club of Jamestown claims to be the oldest, dating from 1878. It has a high reputation as a musical organization. The Shakespeare Club of Westfield came into the field in 1883, but its name was changed to Monday Evening Club in 1885. Travel, history, literature and art have had prominence in the life of this club, and its place in the cultured life of the village is secure. Jamestown also has its Fortnightly Club, a New Century Art Club, a Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle, and a Browning Society, nearly all of which were organized in the "Gay Nineties."

The Chautauqua Woman's Club was organized in 1888, with a membership composed of residents from nearly every State in the Union. The Tuesday Club of Mayville came into being in 1895, "with the object of attaining a higher, broader, and truer culture." It is the mother of the Tuesday Club Free Library, and is incorporated. There is also the Critic Club of Mayville, organized by Miss Alice Tourgee.

Silver Creek has a Current Events Club and a Shakespeare Club that are celebrating their golden anniversary this year (March, 1889-1939). The Minerva Club of Sherman, organized in 1896, has also mothered the library in that town. The Ripley Library Club was founded in 1893, and has taken a prominent part in the life of the town. Cherry Creek has a Woman's Club; Sheridan has a Saturday Study Club; Clymer has a Study Club. Brocton long has had an active Study Club. Indeed, you could find one in every town. It is not alone the fact that they have all had this desire for study long after school days were over, but have carried it on so continuously. A generation has almost passed since these clubs were formed. In fact, very few of the charter members of some of them are left, but the work has so established its value that it goes on year after year, ever being refreshed at the fountain of youth.

The Fredonia Shakespeare Club and the Dunkirk Woman's Literary Club were organized about the same time by Miss Ella Lapham,

and both have celebrated their fiftieth birthday, having been incorporated in 1885. Among the women to serve as president during the first three decades of its existence were Miss Lapham, Mrs. Clark Bloss, Mrs. Harriet Danforth, Mrs. Bookstaver, Mrs. Henry K. Williams, Miss Mary C. Van Buren, Mrs. Howe, Mrs. Joseph Rieger, Mrs. Daniel A. Reed, Mrs. B. O. Schlender, Mrs. Joseph White, Mrs. Edward Bohn, Mrs. Paul Weiler, Mrs. J. L. Sullivan, Mrs. Glenn Woodin, Mrs. G. R. Rider, Miss Margaret Toomey, Mrs. Nina Dye, and Miss Katherine Abell, and at present (1939), Mrs. Walter Morrow is president. Among the members of this organization to be very well known, not only in Dunkirk, but away from home because of their activities in many lines of endeavor, were Mrs. Bookstaver, a member of the State Board of Charities; Dr. Kate B. Davis, later Commissioner of Correction, New York City; Miss Carrie M. Monchow, active and appreciated in the American Library Association; Mrs. E. M. H. Edwards, one of the first women to be classed among the "Ladies of the Press," and Mrs. Elnora Babcock, leader in the suffrage movement. At one time or another, all the official posts of the Western New York Federation of Woman's Clubs have been filled by members of the Woman's Literary Club of Dunkirk.

Several women whom Chautauqua County can claim, have achieved distinction along various lines; such as Kate Stoneman, a native of Busti, who was the first woman lawyer to be admitted to the bar in New York State; Mrs. E. M. H. Edwards, a pioneer in newspaper work; Dr. Isabella Stanley, Dr. Mary Walker, and several other women doctors who were among the first to be given the right to practice medicine; and Dr. Katherine Bement Davis, whose remarkable career should be set forth more fully in a history of the county women.

Katherine Bement Davis, Bachelor of Arts, Vassar College; Doctor of Philosophy, *cum laude,* University of Chicago; Doctor of Laws, Mt. Holyoke College and Western Reserve University, who pursued postgraduate studies at Barnard College, New York City, the University of Chicago, and abroad at Berlin and Vienna, gained her early and high school training in Dunkirk, where she also taught at one time. Among her major achievements were the creation of the workman's model home at the first Chicago World's Fair; years of service as superintendent of the New York State Reformatory for Women at Bedford; representative of the American Red Cross during the Messina disaster of 1908, doing work of which it was said that it was "the most important contribution to the problem of rehabilitating the sufferers." Commissioner of Correction for the city of

New York, appointed on January 1, 1914; and long continued activities as associate editor of the "Journal of American Law and Criminology"; lecturer on penology, and as a speaker before woman's clubs and other organizations.

Then we come to certain women authors, concerning whom we quote by permission from an article by Miss Ellen E. Adams:

Widely Known Writers

For more than seventy-five years Fredonia people have been seeing in print stories or articles on science or history written by men and women who have either lived in the town or had some close connection with it.

The first story writer was a young woman who lived in East Main Street about where Village President Spoden now lives. Her name was Grace Greenwood and her first stories were published in the "Fredonia Censor." She later moved to Washington, D. C., and became widely known as a story writer.

Not many towns can boast of two such outstanding names in the field of fiction, but Fredonia is rightly proud of Grace S. Richmond with "Best Sellers" to her credit, and Jean Webster, with her success in "Daddy Long Legs" both as story and play. In a time when many magazine stories, were to say the least, of questionable taste, Mrs. Richmond has been noteworthy in the cleanliness of her books, yet no one can say she did not keep up with the trend of the times. And always one must admire her wonderful use of words, each one exactly the word for the place. Mrs. Richmond has more than twenty successful books to her credit besides many short stories published in magazines. Mrs. Richmond has another form of literary expression that not so many are aware of—her letters have always been a joy to her friends.

Jean or Alice Webster, as she was known here, was not a resident of Fredonia, when success came to her, but her family had long been identified with the town and here she spent her girlhood. Even as a child she gave evidence of an unusual mind and a whimsical humor. "Daddy Long Legs" was an instant success both as a book and as a play. This was followed by "Dear Enemy," which was a sequel to her first success and thought by some to be even better. Her work was cut short by her untimely death, but she accomplished enough to show undeniable talent. She was determined to have her work judged strictly on its own merit and carefully kept it a secret that she was a great-niece of Mark Twain.

Temple Bailey is another popular writer, who, while not a resident of Fredonia, is closely connected with our town. Her father and mother lived here as young people and she has several times visited her relatives here. She has now a cousin living in Fredonia and one in Dunkirk. Her stories are published in the best magazines and she

has more than a dozen books to her credit. Her home has been in the city of Washington most of her life and she uses her knowledge of the city to an advantage in many of her books.

Another name recently seen in "The Saturday Evening Post" is Frances Woodward Prentiss. She will be remembered as a small girl who came here to see her grandfather, Judge George Barker. She should have a legal mind, as her father, Judge John Woodward, was a member of the Supreme Court.

We have at present, one active magazine contributor, Mrs. Helen Treyz Smith. Her work is along the line of home economics and she writes for such well known magazines as "Pictorial Review" and "Better Homes and Gardens." A few years ago "Pictorial Review" published a cook book arranged by Mrs. Smith, and each recipe was introduced so interestingly that any woman, whether she could cook or not, would want to try it.

A number of others, known in Fredonia, have done some writing, but mostly as a side-line, among them, Mrs. A. W. Dods, Mrs. Henry C. Drake, and the late Mrs. Mary Coleman Barrett Howard.

Miss Calista S. Jones, of Jamestown, should be remembered as the teacher at whose suggestion industrial training was first introduced in the school. Professor Love, of Jamestown, took her idea and developed it into a system which gave the Jamestown schools the prestige of being the first in the country to adopt this feature.

The women of this county can well be proud of their achievements. They have built a long and interesting history of public activities, moral battles, civic and social service, and splendid home making.

CHAPTER XXXIV

The Arts in Chautauqua County

By Lucia Tiffany Henderson
Librarian, James Prendergast Free Library, Jamestown

The task here undertaken is to condense material enough for a book into the prescribed limits of a chapter, and in so doing to apportion space among groups and individuals. We have secured authentic data from those who readily responded to requests, and we are sincerely grateful to everyone thus contributing. We have tried to present the information without prejudice, and hope that this first assembling of material sometime may serve as a basis for an expanded history.

This list of individual artists is confined to those who have attained more than local recognition; but we acknowledge the considerable number of highly-trained and accomplished teachers, leaders and other artists of our region whose contributions merit and receive cordial appreciation.

Music

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There should be a word at the start, reminiscent of early days when the village singing school flourished, revealing an occasional voice that warranted cultivation by resident or visiting teacher, or possibly in the neighboring city. The welcome fiddler, player of flute and horn, and bands of these—variously talented, with scant opportunities, adding cheer to life in pioneer communities. The melodeon, or "cottage-organ," in some homes, or an early piano possessed by the most prosperous. Then the romantic vogue of the guitar as accompaniment to the voice, as solo instrument, or in serenading, once so popular.

For years Jamestown had two flourishing piano manufactories: that of George A. Georgi, coming from his native Bavaria, and long a successful teacher of piano. His excellent instrument—popular

throughout this region. The Ahlstrom Brothers later manufactured a high-grade piano of wide sale, splendid in quality. One able maker of violins, George Chase, of Forestville and later Celoron, worked many years till his recent death. His superior violins were valued by teachers and violinists. It was he who repaired the stringed instruments for artists of Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra. He was a stonemason by trade.

A paramount influence in stimulating and cultivating musical appreciation and talent in this region is the Chautauqua Institution's greatly developed musical department, including the Symphony Orchestra, whose members teach our advanced students, and whose programs inspire and broaden musical audiences. Other Chautauqua soloists, vocal, instrumental, also instruct our teachers, students.

Christmas Caroling—"Introduced in Jamestown by British-born residents with advent of textile industry," says John W. Unsworth. Formation of Jamestown Alpaca Mills, 1873, brought first workers, contributing much to city's industry and citizenship. On first Christmas here, groups visited each other's homes. Sang old familiar carols. (Some men identified: Briggs, Toothill, Ickeringill, Feather.) The caroling program has been repeated each Christmas by employees of Alpaca Mills, last work period before closing for holidays, since 1873. The new mill management, since 1915, coöperates, furnishing piano and inviting guests.

The institution of Chautauqua Lodge, 107, Sons of St. George, in 1882, assisted in the North-of-England custom Christmas caroling. Tunes only heard then (one never printed—transferred from one generation to another.)

The late William C. J. Hall, a mill owner, musical and helpful friend of these carolers, lived opposite the writer, who remembers awakening to the carols serenading this patron as Christmas dawned.

Swedish Men's Chorus—As Swedish people made Jamestown their home, men's groups practiced and enjoyed their folk song. Richard Enlund lists groups from year he came, 1902 (since when, organist, choirmaster, director Harmony Chorus); 1902, Pacius; 1904-05, Lyran, which became Jamestown Male Chorus; 1906-08, Verdandi, afterward changed to Thule, which became Aeolian; 1911, Harmony, local unit American Union of Swedish Singers, celebrated here twenty-fifth anniversary, 1936; 1933-34, Workers' Male Chorus.

Mozart Club—Founded Jamestown, 1878, by Mrs. W. W. Henderson, Mrs. Alfred Allen, Miss Josephine Fenton (afterward Mrs.

F. E. Gifford), Miss Fenton, president; Mrs. Henderson, vice-president. Mrs. Gifford forty years president of this second oldest musical club in New York State. Oldest woman's club Chautauqua County; 250 members.



(Photo by Globe Photo Co.,
Courtesy of the Chautauqua County Historical Society)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 3RD AND CHERRY STREETS, JAMESTOWN, 1881

Its sixtieth anniversary was celebrated in a brilliant banquet and reminiscent program at the Hotel Jamestown, November 30, 1938. Editorial comment: "Jamestown owes debt of gratitude to Mozart Club." Club has developed community's musical understanding, cultivated musical talent. Through the years the Mozart brought great

orchestras, ensembles, soloists, Metropolitan and other. This service is now the province of Civic Music Association (affiliated with the National); Mrs. Clare Pickard, president. It is in its eleventh season. Largest membership (one thousand six hundred) of any city its size. The Mozart Club's later enterprises included: scholarships awarded, choruses, string ensemble established within membership, "Junior Mozart" organized, exchange programs with neighboring musical clubs.

Fredonia Music Club—Jessie E. Hillman, gifted, successful piano teacher came Fredonia 1887. In 1892 with Georgia Dewey (afterward Mrs. Clothier), vocal teacher, formed music-study club. Brought notable artists for public concerts, and so maintained a free bed in the Dunkirk Hospital.

Schumann Society—Organized about 1889, Westfield, by Mrs. Jennie Coombs, to promote music interest. Active some years and led to forming present music club.

Westfield Music Club—Organized 1925. Mrs. Harry Williamson, first president. Purpose, the promotion of music study. It holds monthly musicals with local, out-of-town talent.

Westfield Men's Chorus—Recently formed; excellent promise.

Gideon R. Broadberry—Born in Nottinghamshire, England, in 1862. Preparation: Lincoln Cathedral School, choir boy musical training; graduate Cambridge University; later musical education Paris and elsewhere on the Continent. Visited America, 1885; remained until death, 1936, at Jamestown. He was choir director, organist several Pittsburgh churches, editorial writer and critic there. Was a discriminating music critic twenty-one years for the "Jamestown Journal." His musical library ranked any other this locality. He was organist, bandmaster, superintendent of music, Western Pennsylvania Institute for Blind ten years. President later of Southwestern Tier Association. Mr. Broadberry was helpful to music students and in civic affairs, and stimulated critical valuation of music throughout this section.

Samuel Thorstenberg—Born at Salemsburgh, Kansas, 1871. Attended Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas; postgraduate course, teaching, received two degrees. In London, 1899, studied oratorio and conducting; Royal Conservatory, Stockholm, with pupil of Liszt. Returning to Bethany, was assistant director music, director college

oratorio society of six hundred voices. 1909-34, at Jamestown, as choirmaster, organist First Lutheran Church. Director Jamestown Conservatory Music, successive Swedish male choruses and concert band.

Jamestown Choral Society, first called "Centennial Chorus," 1910, when celebrating city's founding. Centennial 1926 (village incorporation); was its leader twenty-eight years till death, 1938. Gave many concerts—in over forty, coöperating with Chautauqua choir's regional choral festivals. More than fifty presentations "Messiah," on Christmas and Easter. Walter Howe, choral director, Chautauqua, paid Thorstenberg high tribute. Testimonial concerts during lifetime. His talents for accomplishing music advancement, were widely recognized. Composed hymns, anthems, male choruses, solos, organ numbers.

Hill's Piano School—Jamestown, 1897-1914, Earl Hill, founder, director, teacher, with able assistants. Came from successful conduct of music department, Sugargrove Seminary, Pennsylvania. Organized six-piano orchestra—twenty-four hands. Gave orchestral presentations of classic symphonies with true artistry. Summer course for teachers attended by outstanding representatives from many states and ranked high among normal music schools. Many fine recitals attracted music lovers.

Jamestown Schools: Music Department—Frederick Botsford first supervisor; Botsford memorial festival, June, annual closing event of department. Participating: orchestras, Junior High with Central High, numbering 95; chorus, 250 voices. Ebba H. Goranson, supervisor; since 1933 director Central High orchestra, a Capella choir. By Mozart Club gift, 1930, took summer course in conducting, London, England, under Ethel Levinski, director woman's orchestra, heard in Jamestown. Liberal extra public support from private citizens, provides superior band, orchestral instruments, other equipment to department's advantage under inspiring leadership. Concert proceeds, popular, and Mozart Club subscriptions permit these groups and soloists to attend conventions, wherein they win prizes and honors. Appear before conventions and other organizations. A Capella choir is uniquely impressive; Jamestown's most artistic achievement, highest rating Fredonia Festival, State contest, 1937 first champions. Fine, highly-trained voices; girls in ivory satin cottas, boys in red Russian cossacks, a treat alike to ear and eye. Their precise, reverent

phrasing is emotionally moving. Present two church vesper services yearly.

New Madrigal Singers are winning contest honors. High school band, Arthur Goranson, leader, appears in Memorial Day parade. Give several concerts yearly, including two concerts each July Fourth since 1933, in Chautauqua Amphitheatre. High ratings, State and national.

Music department has nine music teachers, two supervisors, orchestras, glee clubs (junior highs and two in grades), special woodwind instructor, and a violin instructor.

Fredonia State Normal: Music Department—Opened 1908, Francis H. Diers, present (1939) head. Miss Jessie Hillman, former head piano work. "Her pupils not the only ones who benefited. She set standards for the community." Western New York's music festival instituted in 1927 by music department. Invites each year high school music groups of this region—now attended by five thousand students during week. Public attends contest recitals.

Miss Harriet Bannister taught piano at this school for twenty-five years. "Was a very dynamic person in field of music." One who helped bring notable artists before Music Club. She died 1932.

Westfield High School: Music—Orchestra, complete symphony. Boy's Glee Club won first prize twice at Fredonia Normal Festival; second place, Jamestown (State contest); second place, Albany (national regional contest).

Jamestown Symphonic Band—Arthur Goranson, leader; many formerly of High School Band forming this group upon graduation; thirty to forty members. Concerts under own and various auspices.

Jamestown Symphony Orchestra—Organized many years; Anthony Ortalano, present director. Forty experienced musicians from former orchestras, teachers, etc. Concerts of excellence, local and elsewhere.

C. Helmer Wickstrom—Former clarinet soloist Jamestown High School Band, is graduate of Ithaca School of Music; music director, Lyons, New York, Central School. Wickstrom won sectional, State and national rating.

Frederick Hillary—Born State College, Pennsylvania. At Jamestown; Chicago, Lyceum tour; is Juilliard graduate (five years in three). Scholarships with Leopold Auer, three years. Gained expe-

perience under other masters, and in the opera production, "Backstage," at Metropolitan Opera. Organized Jamestown Little Symphony. Won Eastman School scholarship three years "with distinction." Violin and conducting. Played in Philharmonic Orchestra, Rochester. Radio conducting Eastman School Symphony and Buffalo Civic Opera. Teaches violin, etc., at Gustavus Adolphus, St. Peter, Minnesota. Violin recitals and tours, soloist with his Capella choir and band.

Edward Hall Broadhead—Jamestown. Attended high school, Denison University (degree) Conservatory Music diploma in organ. Master of Arts, Duke University, Master of Music, University of Michigan. Since 1933 organist, has been instructor, music at Duke. Recitals, Carilloner. Chapel services, teaches organ and some academic studies. Composed sacred cantata performed in 1939, Duke Chapel.

Harold Gustafson—Jamestown. Had first cornet at eight, Salvation Army Band his tutors. First chair, Junior and Senior High school bands and orchestras; also Swedish Salvation Army Band. Studied piano, viola, and conducting. 1932, National Cornet Championship. 1933-36, symphonic orchestra training under Max Schlossberg (New York Philharmonic), world's trumpet authority. Concertizes, teaches, composes for cornet, adapts for band, orchestra. Bandmaster Swedish Salvation Army.

David Falway—Ripley. Son of Westfield bandmaster. High school. National trombone championship. Guest trombone soloist "Armco" broadcast, Cincinnati; received gold medal.

Artists to 1939

Anna Bishop (afterward *Mrs. Carl Scofield)*—Jamestown soprano, toured with "English Bell-Ringers" Europe and America at an early day.

Carlotta Pinner—Jamestown, afterward New York. Prima donna soprano. Sang in opera, United States and Europe. Returned to girlhood home, Jamestown, in early eighties. Gave brilliant concert at Opera House under the auspices of Mozart Club. Contemporary critic's tribute to cultivated remarkable voice in exacting program. Accompanists: Alice Grace Lathrop, violinist of Fredonia (formerly at Jamestown), Mrs. Robert Bradshaw, pianist. Two-piano symphony by club members. Whitney Tew, of quartet, etc.

Mme. Belle Weaver Cole—Jamestown and London. Contralto voice of wide range, depth and beauty; trained in New York and London. In concert, England and America, 1880-90. Her London salon frequented by artists and other personages. Later on American tour gave concerts in New York and elsewhere, including Jamestown.

Ella Marie Dreager—Jamestown, contralto, pupil of Viardot-Garcia in Bremen, doing three years' work in two, taxing health temporarily. Singing highly valued in concert and church, Jamestown and elsewhere. Taught voice and painting at Warren, Pennsylvania.

Herbert Whitney Tew—Jamestown, public career, 1890-1905. Gave recitals, local and Chautauqua. Lived in London, studying with best teachers. Sang in Covent Garden Opera. Taught; concert tours. With other stars opera tours British Isles, South Africa. Whitney Tew rated with Bispham, Witherspoon—one of greatest three bassos of period.

May Selstrom (afterward *Mrs. Bargar)*—Jamestown. Won honors at Sherwood School of Music, Chicago, under eminent instructors. Became interpretative artist. Gave alternate lessons to William Sherwood's best pupils. Success at Chautauqua. After Sherwood's death, conducted the school. Playing has breadth, dignity; later enjoyed at Mozart Club, of which a director, president.

Harold Thompson—Buffalo, 1881. Westfield High School, Hamilton College; Doctor of Philosophy, Harvard; research student Guggenheim Foundation, Edinburgh University, New York State Teachers' College. Professor English, director music department, 1920-24. Organist-choirmaster, Hamilton College and Presbyterian Church, Albany. Contributing editor "Diapason," Chicago. American Guild organist. Works on organ, choir, music-teaching, archæology, biography, literature. Degrees, honors foreign and American universities and learned societies. ("Who's Who.")

John Gourney—Jamestown. Oberlin athlete, member glee club, Harvard Business School Glee Club. Director persuaded career should be music. Visited France to study under Maurave of Paris Opera. Year later returned and joined American opera. Had varied career in vaudeville, Ziegfeld Follies, Roxy Theatre, Russian Opera Company, opera at Lewisohn Stadium. First with Metropolitan Opera, 1936; made such an impression that Metropolitan put him under three-year contract as regular member. Smooth richness of

bass-baritone and exceptional acting ability have won him distinguished place, concerts and broadcasts.

Lilian I. Gustafson—Jamestown. Lyric soprano. Thorstenberg discovered and cultivated beautiful voice. Then New York—oratorio, church, concerts, local and elsewhere.

Frederic K. Langford—Jamestown. Eastman School, Rochester. Private teachers, New York and Prague. Sung in concert, Paris, Prague, Ostend, other European cities. Winner Madrigal Society and Knabe Contest for tenors. Member Wagnerian Festival group.

Ruth Van Lewen Welsh—Westfield, 1894. Studied New York and Kansas City. Soprano soloist, Kansas City Civic Opera. Soloist, St. Peter's, in Westfield. Some concert work.

Elizabeth Butterfield—Jamestown. Studied music, Smith College, and with Georges Barrere. Published compositions include choruses, solos for voice, violin, children's songs. Music journals praise. Programed by choruses, local, Chautauqua, New York State Federation Music Clubs, etc. Appeared at White House, Washington clubs, Florida and northern cities. Presents compositions over radio. MacDowell Club, National Federation Music clubs.

Berenice Alarie—Jamestown. Daughter of Mabel Woodworth Johnson, now of Washington, District of Columbia. Coloratura soprano, winning acclaim in concert and opera. Closed "Art Young America" series, Washington, with benefit concert, four group songs. Sang at White House; returned Jamestown, 1938, and sang Josephine in "Pinafore," Women's Christian Association Hospital benefit.

Graphic Arts

Jamestown Sketch Club—First club 1890; formed by seasoned art teachers and students. Later club, 1922 to date, retains nine of early list who attained prominence in art work. First spring show, 1933 (seventh annual in 1939). Other exhibits of members' work: 1934, Chautauqua, ten days; Allied Arts gallery, Westfield, ten days; with Camera Club, Jamestown, five days; 1935, Chamber of Commerce.

Exhibits (outside work) 1934, 1937: Thomas Hall, Chicago; Lopez V. Emig, Detroit; Florence Hazeltine, St. Louis; Grumbacher's traveling exhibition with Jamestown entries. Eight mem-

bers (exhibitors in outside shows) winning awards: Benzinger, Carlson, Dreisher, Holmburg, Josephson, Lundgren, Nicholson, Albright Gallery, Buffalo. Ruth S. Benzinger at Watercolor Club, New York City, Pennsylvania Academy Fine Arts, Philadelphia. Others, at Scandinavian-American Exhibition, Chicago. Burdette Carlson, president, Scarab Club prize, Young Michigan artists' shows, Detroit. Club in 1935 affiliated with Jamestown evening school (till then having no art classes). Brought club's model to joint sessions—stimulated day-school art department to introduce drawing from model. Group within club organized "Ten Women Painters," so listed in "Art Annual." Paint together Saturdays, outdoors.

Chautauqua County Society of Artists—Formed 1936, to exhibit semi-annually, works of members. Sponsors exhibits by other artists, to promote art interest and appreciation, "and unite our art with other cultural interests in the county. . . . Each township has a director." Society had two shows: First, reproductions of Cezanne's works, rented from Museum Modern Art, New York. Second, portraits of local people, or locally owned (oldest 1790), to contemporary. Plans for 1940: Eight exhibits of national importance, coöperating with Jamestown Sketch Club, Little Theatre, and Scottish Rite.

New Century Art Club—Founded and federated, 1897. Mrs. Charles M. Dow its president until her death, 1920, whereupon club agreed to disband after twenty-three years' activity. Programs on national schools of art were illustrated by imported photographs and copies in color, masterpieces from valuable collection of Forbes Memorial Library, Northampton, Massachusetts (in care of Prendergast Library). Our traveled, cultivated women acknowledged increased interest and benefit through programs, reading and practice of art. Club had school art prize annually, held public displays of its loans, provided lectures, some public, or guest meetings. Owned works of art. Its social celebrations were delightful.

Art Photography: Camera Clubs—Jamestown: First club, 1907; president, Miles C. Nichols. Local exhibitions. Entries in "Buffalo Express" competitions. Members' prize-winning photographs, illustrated in that paper. Disbanded during World War. Second club: 1933, John M. Cushman, president. Annual exhibition, members' work. No prizes. Made photographs in their entirety. Local exhibits of traveling collections from other clubs, etc. Club shows work annually at Warren, under auspices Woman's Club.

Westfield Camera Club—1936, E. Taylor Judd, president. Holds local amateur exhibitions at libraries of northern Chautauqua County. Sponsored one international exhibit. At monthly meetings, assignment certain types of photographs. Prints are brought for constructive criticism. Instruction and demonstrations of processing.

Individual Amateurs—Our county claims amateur artists notable in portraiture, photographs of scenic beauty, memorial buildings and other objects, otherwise unrecorded. William S. Bailey's portraits and artistic old houses; John Cushman's historic and scenic subjects. John Bowman's views of sunsets, cloud-effects over Chautauqua Lake are outstanding local examples of art-photography. Joseph Wertz and wife are prominent in this field, and other names deserve special mention.

Harriet Mason Ely—Richard T. Ely, born Ripley, who spent boyhood in Fredonia, says: "Mother had talent as painter. Without adequate training she became one of the best artists of Fredonia. . . . At an early day she taught painting in Fredonia Academy, and exhibited at county fairs, taking prizes, but often withheld own work so pupils might win awards. Sold many paintings, helping sons attend college and daughter to study music."

John Phillips—Portrait painter in Westfield, 1844. Tuckerman's "Book of Artists," 1867, says: "Went to Spain, copied several Murillos in Madrid Gallery. . . . Made copies of Velasquez. . . . Said to have painted, about 1850, in London, the Royal family." Returned America, 1853; painted among others, two portraits of Lieutenant-Governor George W. Patterson, one of William H. Seward, and one of Chief Justice Ambrose Spencer. It is thought that portrait of Elial Todd Foote in courthouse, Mayville, is his work.

Amos Wright—Silver Creek, painted portraits about 1853. At Westfield, remained for several months painting those of Lieutenant-Governor and Mrs. Patterson.

A. Bradich—Portrait painter, Fredonia. In 1857 painted portrait of Austin Smith, Westfield.

Laura DeVinney—Director, Art Department of State Normal, Fredonia. Studied: Western State Normal, Kalamazoo, Terre Haute, Columbia University, Ecole des Beaux Arts, and took European art-history trip. Exhibited at, and member of: Buffalo Society

of Artists, Patteran Art Society, Chautauqua County Artists, Western New York Exhibit.

Sara Dewey—Art instructor Fredonia Normal. Studied: Chicago Art Institute, Pratt, Columbia, Provincetown, Woodstock, New York, and European countries. Exhibited in: Buffalo, Chicago, Dunkirk, Jamestown, Fredonia, and Flint, Michigan.

Blanche H. Woodford—Jamestown artist—well trained. Work shown in local exhibitions. For years head of art in Jamestown schools. Left $1,000, the accrued interest to be awarded school producing best work annually, in modeling and drawing in definite mediums. Triennial exhibit, work of junior highs honors her memory.

Clara Elizabeth Sackett—Early homes Westfield and Jamestown. Studied: Albany, Boston, New York Art Students' League, Paris five years; had two portraits in the salons. Next, Buffalo, portraits, exhibiting other cities, especially in New York. During World War put on reconstruction pageant at Wilmington, North Carolina. Plays, pageants, tableaux with Percy and Hazel MacKaye. In 1915 had thirty pastel portraits at San Diego Exposition; one of Mrs. John Rockefeller. In Washington painted Mrs. Oliver Belmont. In charge art department Cambridge Haskell School, 1922. Won other honors, prizes. In 1925 had studio Hotel Astor, where painted portrait first officer killed in Great War, Jeff Feigl. In 1926 sent to Lenox by New York Art Center charge summer exhibition house for their artists. Has New York studio; summers in Nova Scotia, or rarely, Westfield. Miniature exhibits several cities, and New York Miniature Society. In 1913 opened Buffalo Guild Applied Arts; was first president. In 1933 started Guild Applied Art Chautauqua County, with pageant; another in 1934. ("Who's Who, Leading Women of America.")

Sara Hazzard—Jamestown. Miniature painter. Graduate Art School, Cooper Union, New York. Studied: Art Students' League, New York; William Chase Art School and American School Miniature Painting. Member: National Association Women Painters and Sculptors, Pennsylvania Society Miniature Painting. Exhibited: National Academy of New York; Pennsylvania Academy of Philadelphia; Corcoran Art Gallery, Washington, District of Columbia; Art Institute, Chicago; Sesqui-centennial, Philadelphia. 1939, asked to exhibit at New York World's Fair.

Helen Winsor—Jamestown. Cooper Union; oils and water color. Painted tapestries, on order Philadelphia of patron; others locally owned. Exhibited: Philadelphia, New York, Jamestown.

Catherine Holmes—Jamestown. Oils, watercolor. Woodstock, New York. An early president of Sketch Club. Work shown at James Prendergast Free Library; in general exhibits locally.

Gerry Peirce—Jamestown. High school, Cleveland School of Art, Art Students' League, New York. His paintings have beauty and value; etchings better known. First series plates in New Orleans four winters, reflect charm old French quarter. Next, Nova Scotia, where he spent year fishing, lobstering, sailing with villagers, acquiring experiences interpreted in series of sea plates. Florida inspired etchings of Southern pine and Spanish moss. Colorado, large groups, some his best. Lived near Sante Fé and with Indians at Pueblo San Ildefenso. Studio, foothills Arizona; home, Tucson, Arizona. Writes and illustrates children's books. Member Arizona Society Painters and Sculptors, Philadelphia Print Club, Chicago Galleries Association, Chicago Society of Etchers. Has ten etchings at Metropolitan Museum and eight at other museums. Exhibits at Chautauqua and elsewhere.

Carl Johan David Nordell—Born Copenhagen, 1885; arrived Connecticut aged six. First drawing instruction from artist Fred Stuart Green. Studied at Rhode Island School of Design on scholarship. Protégé of Richard A. Canfield (who had recognized and helped the gifted Whistler). Won New York Art Students' League scholarship, but chose School of Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, where studied two years, winning traveling scholarship. Spent two years visiting European galleries. Studied Paris, Académie Julian. Exhibited, Paris Salon. Returning, had exhibition at Boston Art Club, also painted special portraits. Was granted Clark prizes and certificate for his canvas at Corcoran Gallery. Other prizes. His work is in great galleries of Europe and America. At Gloucester, produced landscapes, seascapes, etchings, of fishermen. Studios New York and elsewhere. Many portraits. Exhibited at several world's fairs. Came to Chautauqua County, 1937, to paint and exhibit at Chautauqua. Lived Westfield, establishing studio. 1939, married Helen Eddy, artist of Westfield.

Will Larymore Smedley—Ohio, 1871. Case School Applied Science, Cleveland. Taught mechanics, architecture and fine arts at

New York Military Academy. Taste for natural science cultivated. Studios in New York, Chautauqua, 1901. Portraits, landscapes, marine, etching, modeling. National Academician. In many exhibitions: National Academy, American, and Cleveland Watercolor societies, Philadelphia Academy of Arts, Society Artists and Illustrators, American Miniature Painters. Instrumental in founding Jamestown Sketch Club. ("Who's Who in American Art.")

Frank Von der Lancken—Oklahoma. Art School Mechanics Institute, Rochester, Chautauqua Institution Art School. Studied Académie Julian, Paris. A National Academician. Now art director University of Oklahoma, Tulsa. Winner Beck Award, 1936, Philadelphia Academy. Work in many galleries.

Mrs. Von der Lancken—Académie Julian, Paris, and in Italy. Taught at Chautauqua Institution.

Mrs. Ruth Benzinger—Lakewood. Studied Grand Central School of Art, and exhibited Philadelphia, New York, Buffalo, Jamestown. Member, Sketch Club, Jamestown, Chautauqua County Society of Artists. Won prizes, Artists Western New York exhibitions, Buffalo.

Sylvia Starr (Mrs. J. B. Wertz)—Buffalo, 1905; Mayville, New York "Roaring Hill." Graduate Lasell Seminary, Auburndale, Massachusetts. Studied painting, Chautauqua, with Stanhope Forbes, Newlyn, Cornwall, England; Paris; then École des beaux-arts, Art Students' League and National Academy. Exhibited New York with Fontainebleau Alumni, Durham, North Carolina, Montclair, New Jersey. First prize oils, Chautauqua Society of Artists; collaborated with husband, illustrated magazine articles and books, "Pueblo Boy," book on Japan and her book of trees. First prize, photograph of Chautauqua Lake Scenery, County Historical Society contest, 1937.

Sam Schrier—Dunkirk. Born, educated, Paterson, New Jersey Emmons Art School, 1910-13 modeling; sculpturing with masters, Los Angeles, 1928-29. Exhibited: Artists Western New York, Albright Gallery, landscape prize 1938 show. Has two oils, New York World's Fair. Teaches arts, adult classes, Dunkirk.

Frances B. Pierce—Dunkirk. Pratt Institute Art Department, New York Fine and Applied Art. Out-door painting with Henry Snell and Jonas Lie. Exhibited: Brooklyn Society of Artists, Katherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club, New York, Pen and Brush Club,

New York, Buffalo and Western New York groups at Albright, Buffalo Society Artists and Guild Applied Arts, Buffalo. Gave several paintings to Brooks Memorial Hospital.

Lee S. Trimm—Kansas, 1879, later to Pennsylvania. At eighteen was supporting family by sale of his paintings. After marriage built his house and studio at Jamestown, remaining to 1916. Traveled widely, won reputation as portrait painter. Local subjects: Professor Samuel G. Love, R. R. Rogers, Father Coyle, Frank Stevens. His portraits in colleges and other public institutions honoring founders, leaders throughout the United States. Except for two years under a master artist, his art has been self-developed. Home, Syracuse.

Adon Trimm (brother of Lee S.)—Cassadaga. Jamestown schools. Musician in World War. Studied art from boyhood, largely self-taught. Gained knowledge from artists, David Lithgow and Walter Palmer, Albany. Exhibited portraits and landscapes, Albright Art Gallery, Buffalo, Rockefeller Center, Syracuse, Albany, Jamestown, and elsewhere. Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, a patron of his art. Instructor with Fine Arts Center, Jamestown. His excellent portraits have real character likeness.

Lawrence Powers—Westfield, 1906; Pratt Institute. Held one man exhibit portraits, Junior League rooms, William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, also at Miami, Florida.

Roger Tory Peterson—Jamestown. Former school teacher. Director educational activities National Association Audubon Societies, New York. His "Field Guide to the Birds" "most practical, accurate guide issued." His marginal drawings add much to interpret bird life to young people in his "Junior Book of Birds." He illustrates exceptionally well in black and white and is (1939) Art Editor of "Bird Lore."

Oscar Anderson—Jamestown. Born Denmark. Woodturner for more than forty years. Learned trade in Stockholm's ancient Woodworking Guild, acquiring title "Master Woodturner." Came here when fine woodcarving was in demand at furniture factories. Has developed beautiful work much sought for ornamental value as well as utility, admired for its accurate detail and graceful design. 1928, diploma Exhibition Swedish Art, New York; 1936, at Woodturner's-Cabinetmaker's Guild exhibit, Copenhagen, his entry 41 inches high

of 689 pieces, Mexican mahogany, white maple inlay, six months in making, received high praise by people and press. Several examples at New York World's Fair, 1939.

Carleton Garrettson Young—Westfield, 1907. Drama, Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh. With Charles Wagner Players, Buffalo; with Pauline Frederick in "Elizabeth the Queen," Hollywood, and with other actors of note. With New York Players, and Radio Guild, "Show Boat," etc. Broadcasts.

Architecture

Quoting Sylvia Starr and Joseph Wertz (1933): "A century ago the population of Western New York was still pioneer stock. . . . Had contemporary plan-books . . . . adaptations of measured drawings, 'Antiquities of Athens,' by English architects. Sympathy with struggle of Greece for independence did most to start movement toward building 'Greek revival' houses. . . . Our forefathers saw this type provided sturdy construction and stability."

John Jones—Leading architect western New York, nineteenth century. Descendant of long line Welsh architects. His brother, William, architect, of Eaton Hall, Duke of Devonshire's castle, Chester, England. John, born Bala, Wales; married 1827, settled at Westfield, New York, building his home, later much enlarged for William Seward, now home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Crandall. Moving to Fredonia, bought in 1836 fine house built by Orris Crosby, 1825, Jones added columned porch. Occupied by family one hundred years. Early beautiful garden filled front yard. House now removed, on same street. Jones designed three fine Risley houses and many others, besides churches of our northern region. His distinguished columned porches, interior details, doorways, attract visiting architects. (Information direct from granddaughter, Mrs. Anna Fuller Miller, New Orleans, and correspondents in Westfield and Fredonia.) Mrs. Miller corrects current error crediting to a son, Samuel, the art of his father. Samuel only a child during father's working years, and never became builder or architect.

Oliver P. Smith—Settled at Jamestown in 1830s. His book, "Smith's Architecture," Buffalo, 1852, shows designs like finer houses on classic lines in Jamestown, Panama, and surrounding region, some of which he probably built, but, in no instance, is there a record to confirm this. Of the few examples surviving the city's changes is one

outstanding whose most imposing section was built in 1846 for William Hall, an early settler. "Country Homes" had an illustrated account of this stately dwelling. Doric columns; two stories high; beveled by hand, as is much of its interior woodwork and decoration. The old "Breed House," of East Fifth Street, long the home of Harry Lewis and family, O. P. Smith is supposed to have built.

John Capple designed and built the oldest house at Panama for Dr. Cornelius Ormes, 1833; another for John Steward. Architect of interesting old Glidden home, unknown. One old carpenter of Panama, John Newhouse, carved porch columns from solid tree trunks. Loree, another early builder. At Ashville a fine example is known as the Sardius Steward house. The Watteson house and others are by architects unknown. The Tennant house, Westfield, is substantial and attractive. Among other early Jamestown architects were Royal Keys, Horatio Dix, and William Bell, of Warren, Pennsylvania, built here also.

Among later-day architects of standing are:

Charles D. Wetmore—Jamestown; Harvard. Member firm, Warren and Wetmore, New York. Examples of their designing: Grand Central Station, Vanderbilt Hotel, New York Yacht Club, Jamestown Furniture Exposition Building.

Roger Bailey—Jamestown High, 1915; Cornell University, School of Architecture, 1919; École des beaux-arts, 1922-25. Teaching: University of Michigan, 1931-36; 1939 to date, Yale University; Cornell Summer School. Exhibits of his water colors and oils receive merited appreciation.

Joseph Belton Wertz—Spartanburg, South Carolina, 1903. Architect. Graduate Clemson Agricultural and Mechanical College and of École des beaux-arts. Won national scholarship to Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where studied graduate design. Third in national competition, Brown Traveling Scholarship. Won first place, national competition, Le Brun Traveling Fellowship; seven months touring Europe, 1930-31. In offices of several New York architects. Collaborated with Mrs. Wertz on illustrated articles in ranking magazines, and in photographic book for children on American Indians. Now consulting architect, Chautauqua Institution; also doing county buildings at Mayville. Active in Jamestown and Westfield Camera clubs.

Beck and Tinkham—Jamestown architects. On their tenth anniversary this firm issued a finely illustrated book, "Selections from the Work of Ellis W. Beck and Norman M. Tinkham: Artisans and owners . . . who have made this work possible," 1930. Contains plans, full-page illustrations of fine dwellings, town and country estates, points along Lake Shore, local, and in other places, from 1919 to date. Also shows hospitals, schools, commercial buildings.

Amateur Drama

Avon Club—At Jamestown, in 1895, nine young women, high school seniors, organized this club, under direction of preceptress, Mary R. Willard, "for study of Shakespearean literature, history, oratory, costuming, play directing, etc." Membership: Women; active, honorary, and non-resident; limited to two hundred. On honorary list: Ellen Terry, James Young, and Appleton Morgan, Shakespearean scholar. Club received valuable gifts; also donated books, magazines, to James Prendergast Free and high school libraries. Annually, 1899 to 1915, sent book, gift to Shakespeare Memorial Library, Stratford-on-Avon. At Miss Willard's withdrawal from school, club disbanded, 1916, after making its influence widely felt.

Players' Club—Jamestown, 1920-36. Natural outgrowth of Avon Club. Regular meetings, Young Women's Christian Association, public recitals, theatres, high schools; later rented club rooms.

The Little Theatre of Jamestown, Incorporated (1936)—This dramatic organization, with a nucleus of Players' Club members, enlarged scope of theatre in Jamestown. Mr. and Mrs. George E. Warren were engaged as full-time professional directors. Scottish Rite Auditorium as theatre; also club rooms and office. Membership now (1939), two thousand two hundred (closed subscription). Second largest Little Theatre in United States. Six or more plays presented each season in run of six nights each; Shakespearean to latest New York successes. Annually, a program of original one-act plays by members. Sponsor one-act tournament, surrounding amateur groups. Directors and scene designer only paid employees. Noted playwright present at production, "Blind Alley," said: "The most professional amateur show I've ever seen."

Garden Clubs—We conclude this survey of arts in our county with a word in regard to Garden Clubs.

This movement, prevailing from coast to coast and up and down the land, has received cordial response throughout our section thereof.

Groups, regional and local, are affiliated with the national association. Hold regular program meetings and flower shows, and buy garden books for public library; fight billboard encroachment of highways; work for beautification of waysides, parks, and other public grounds. They take keen interest in conservation of natural resources, and make the most of our many gardens, which show the attention and intelligence spent upon them. Home grounds have wonderfully improved—even children are "garden-conscious" and are showing skill and enthusiasm in a useful art that gives wholesome outlet to youthful energies. Study of flower arrangement has greatly improved this indispensable feature of decoration. Garden Clubs of Chautauqua County may be depended upon to support this general interest in a more beautiful environment by their intelligent, coöperative effort.

CHAPTER XXXV

Scenic Chautauqua

By William J. Doty

The scenic features and attractions of the "Chautauqua Region" have gained a reputation, extending far beyond the confines of Chautauqua County, and are sought by thousands annually in the never-ending search for nature's offerings of beauty and charm.

Geologists tell us that the eight lakes with which its hills are jeweled, were the beds of ancient rivers that had their source far to the south, flowing northward into what is now the Lake Erie basin. When the glaciers came down from Labrador, they blocked the outlet of these streams, causing a reversal of flow that created the lakes. The exceptions to this change are the Cattaraugus, Canadaway, Chautauqua, and Twenty-Mile creeks.

Professor Barron, of Cornell University, who conducted a geological survey of this section, is authority for the statement the glaciers at the peak stage, covered the tops of our highest hills with a mass of ice more than a thousand feet in thickness, advancing at the slow-motion progress of from eight to twelve inches per year, to a line closely parallel with the present line between New York and Pennsylvania, and receded at about the same rate. All Chautauqua lakes are approximately of the same elevation above sea level; Chautauqua Lake with an area of twenty square miles, being largest; the other seven make a total of two thousand five hundred acres.

With a frontage of over forty miles on Lake Erie and with the Chadakoin, the Conewango, French Creek and the Broken-Straw in the background leading to the Allegheny River—which, in the early days, were made public highways by acts of Congress or the Legislature—Chautauqua excels in the variety of its waterways. At no other point do the Great Lakes approach so closely to the Mississippi Basin, the watershed in places being within five miles of Lake Erie.

Mountains are defined as elevations of land more than two thousand feet in height. Using this definition, the county has five mountains: one in Gerry, one in Charlotte, two in Cherry Creek, and the high point at the top of Robin Hill in the town of Carroll, at the



(Photo by Globe Photo Co.,
Courtesy of the Chautauqua County Historical Society)

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, EAST 3RD STREET, JAMESTOWN, DEDICATED AUGUST 18, 1869

extreme southeastern corner of the county, 2,149 feet above sea level, and 1,576 feet above Lake Erie, or 575 feet higher than Saranac Lake in the heart of the Adirondacks. These high points can be easily reached by automobile over well maintained highways to where the view overlooking nearby lakes and hills well repays the tourist.

There are fourteen states in the Union which do not have within their borders an elevation equal to that of Chautauqua County.

The ancient beaches along the south shore of Lake Erie have provided a convenient means of east-and-west travel since prehistoric days. Wandering Indian tribes, early emigrant caravans, stage coach lines and later, four trunk railway lines have followed these routes provided by nature. Now that travel has again been revolutionized, the trunk highways (numbered 5, 17 and 20) are bringing additional thousands to the swelling horde of autoists. Seven hundred and fifty-two out of a total of 1,988 miles of highways or thirty-eight per cent. of Chautauqua highways are now improved, making easily accessible all points of attraction in the county.

Entering the county through its northeastern gateway as it crosses Cattaraugus Creek over either Routes 5 or 20, the visitor passes on his immediate left the picturesque Cattaraugus Indian Reservation, two and one-half miles of which is in Chautauqua County. Log cabins, pole shelters and primitive relics of bygone days, can easily be reached, including the Pagan Council House where ceremonial dances are still held, and the athletic field at Newtown. Those versed in Indian lore say that the burial places are generally found near the athletic fields so that the departed spirits in the Happy Hunting Ground may enjoy the sports of their descendants.

In this corner of the county is located the "Old Injun Fort," built about the time that Columbus discovered America. The butts of the logs that formed the stockade, can be located in the embankment back of the moat that surrounded the fort. A little farther upstream, the double fort of Refuge can be traced. Nearby on the banks of the beautiful "Burning Spring Falls" is the Jimerson log cabin, the scene of the events that led to the tragic killing of the wife of the artist, Marchand.

Six miles to the south, near Parsells Corners, lies the fallen monarch, "The Big Hanover Elm," the largest tree in northeastern United States, that was thirty-four feet two inches in circumference, thirty inches above the ground, and which was sixty feet to the first limb. It has a worthy successor standing sentinel a few feet away that is almost as large.

Returning to the mouth of Cattaraugus Creek, old Irving is soon reached. Here the first port of entry in the county was located, known as Cattaraugus Harbor, the post office being called Acasta until 1836. A few timbers still remain, marking the spot where the old lighthouse once stood. The Holland Land Company, inspired with

visions of a future metropolis to materialize at this northern terminus of the Allegheny River portage, surveyed the village of Cattaraugus to cover an area of nearly two miles wide and over three miles long, with its full complement of avenues, streets and alleys.

Continuing along the lake shore for thirteen miles, Dunkirk Harbor is reached—so named for its resemblance to the port of Dunkirk, France. First known as Chadwick's Bay, it vied for a time with Buffalo in being the most important New York port on Lake Erie. It was the terminus of the Erie Railroad, which was completed in 1851, and narrowly missed being made the western terminus of the Erie Canal. A fine municipal bathing beach under the eastern lee of Point Gratiot attracts many. Fredonia, three miles to the south, is a place of shrines. Here started the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, the Grange, the use of natural gas, and here also is found the former home of such celebrities as Douglas Houghton, Mark Twain, Commander Cushing, Philip Phillips, Jean Webster, and Grace Richmond.

It is rich in archæology. The largest of the Indian mounds of this section is seen two miles east. Fort Hill, the site of the former home of Phillips, the "Singing Pilgrim," was a prehistoric fort. Arkwright Falls, four miles southeast of Fredonia in the Canadaway Creek, is a wild spot of beauty in a section recently taken over by the Federal Government. Before the coming of the Niagara Power Company, Dr. Pickett, an old time doctor in Fredonia, secured the riparian rights to these falls as a source of electric power for northern Chautauqua. The first skirmish of the War of 1812 took place at the mouth of the Canadaway, one mile west of Dunkirk. Proceeding up the lake, beautiful Van Buren Bay and Point, the oldest summer resort in western New York, where Mark Twain had his cottage, is passed and soon after, the new Lake Erie State Park, six miles southwest of Dunkirk, the well-kept home and grounds of the former Brotherhood of the New Life, that unique experiment in sociology treated elsewhere in this work, can be seen.

Portland Harbor (later called Barcelona) has a wealth of scenic and historic interest. A French military detachment landed here in 1755 and performed the first work by white men by cutting a road to Chautauqua Lake over the portage of eight and one-half miles. The lighthouse, which has the distinction of having been the first government building lighted by natural gas and which was piped in hollow logs from a gas spring one-half mile down the beach, has been well preserved as a monument of the early days when commerce to the southwest passed this point. The "Cross Roads," where the French

Road and Paines Road intersected, was where many events started, including the first clearing and settlement, the first wedding, the first birth, the first sermon preached, the first funeral took place, the first post office located, the first town meeting, the first militia training and the first sawmill and gristmill were built nearby. William H. Seward, who was the resident agent of the Holland Land Company, after the land



HOTEL JAMESTOWN

riots in 1836, built a fine Colonial type of home in Westfield that is still standing.

The "Hogs Back" section at the top of the hill, between Westfield and Mayville, is one of wild and rugged beauty that is seldom equaled east of the Rockies. To the east on the Little Chautauqua and within three miles north of the county seat, are Fitch's Falls, with a twenty-two-foot drop, and Buttermilk Falls, a short distance below. These falls are visited by very few people. To climb the Indian trail, down the Hogs Back, and up the Chautauqua Gorge is no mean feat. At one point near the summit, there is almost a sheer drop of five hun-

dred feet. A herd of over twenty-five deer have their winter shelter in this fastness. At the half-way place on the Portage Trail was located "Buttons Inn," which furnished the title of one of Judge A. W. Tourgee's best sellers.

Mayville, the county seat, has a historical background second in importance only to that of Westfield. Here Dr. Alexander McIntyre, the first purchaser of land in the town, settled and built the stockade defense, called "Fort Debby," in honor of his wife, Deborah. He once had his ears cropped by the Indians and wished no repetition of such an experience. Here was the southern terminus of the portage from Lake Erie. "Beautiful Chautauqua" lies four miles down the lake on the west shore. Nine miles south of Chautauqua are the picturesque Panama Rocks, a broken and unusual formation of conglomerate rocks that comprise some of the last vestiges of the ancient beach of the vast Paleozoic sea that stretched far to the southward, nearly all of such beach having been wiped out by glacial action.

The gorges of the Twenty-Mile Creek and Gages Gulf, in places four hundred feet deep, furnish a large section of wild western scenery; at one point, there is an island one-half mile long, not assessed nor claimed by any one; land-slips are taking place, carrying virgin timber and moving large sections of this land. This section furnishes an annual, undisturbed nesting place for a family of eagles. Canoeists find ideal conditions along the shaded banks of the Outlet and the Conewango.

With the varied offerings of scenic and historical attractions outlined above, Chautauqua County has attractions for the tourist of which it is justly proud.

Part III—Cattaraugus County

CHAPTER XXXVI

Aboriginal Indians, Their Successors and Their Descendants in Cattaraugus County

By Charles E. Congdon

The ancient hill stockades of which remains are found throughout Cattaraugus County are supposed to have been built by the Indians called Eries, who occupied this territory down to 1655. At that time they were destroyed or absorbed by the Senecas of the Genesee Valley. For nearly a hundred years there were no permanent settlements here. It was only hunting ground and a thoroughfare for war parties. About 1750 the pressure of white settlers was felt by the Indians in central New York to such an extent that many of them moved to Buffalo, to the mouth of Cattaraugus Creek and to the headwaters of the Allegheny. At that time, as they do to the present day, the Senecas called this stream the Ohio, but they pronounce it as a Frenchman would because our spelling of the name came from the French discoverers. The wildest and most warlike part of the Seneca Nation was included in those who settled at the Cattaraugus Creek and on the Allegheny. They were strongly attached to the British officers at Montreal and took part in hostilities against the colonies with the English soldiers from Fort Niagara.

No one is likely to find any record relating to this county before 1767, when David Zeisberger wrote a journal of his first trip from Tioga to Tionesta by way of the Allegheny. This journal has been translated and was published by the Ohio Historical Society in 1912. If it is the first description of a trip through this county, it is worth quoting:

> On the 8th, after crossing some rising ground, we came to the source of the Ohio, which at that place has no greater volume than the spring at Christianspring. Here, to my great delight, I saw for the

first time a pine forest in America. The two Indians with me did not know what kind of wood it was, for they had never seen the like. They had much trouble today in keeping the trail, because in places there is for several miles no visible trace of its having been followed by man. Occasionally, we came upon elk tracks (this is a kind of deer that is found in Europe also) which have the appearance of a trail. We were misled by them into a terrible wilderness, so that it was necessary to retrace our steps and stop until John had had an opportunity to go through the woods and find the right trail. We covered a considerable distance today and were very tired, as both yesterday and today we had been obliged to work our way through the wildest and densest woods imaginable (even the two Indians, who are accustomed to the forest, were surprised at the character of this wilderness) coming in the evening to the bank of the Ohio, where the



VIEW DOWN THE VALLEY OF QUAKER RUN FROM PARK HEADQUARTERS, ALLEGANY STATE PARK

stream is already twice as broad as the Manakosy, at Bethlehem, and where it is possible to use the canoe. It seems that here, also, the Indians are accustomed to make canoes to go down stream, for there was evidence that both bark canoes and wood canoes had been made. The most convenient way from Wyoming, therefore, would be by water to Passiquachkunk, then two days' journey overland to the Ohio, where canoes could be made for the trip down stream. On the 9th, we traveled down the Ohio, with the stream to our left. The evening we came out of this very dense swamp, in which we had marched four days and which is incomparably wild. It rained during the night. We came upon the first hut in the forest, in which we spent the night, having been obliged thus far to sleep in the open. On the 10th at noon we arrived in a Seneca town, having the comfort of traveling on good road. The people invited us to stop, which we did, and they gave us

food. I expected to be put through an examination, because I am quite unknown in this region. The right parties for this, however, were not at home, only the younger people who were very friendly. But as we were about to go further a Seneca Indian mounted his horse and rode swiftly, this very day, into the next town, which is at least thirty miles from here. I could, therefore, conclude that I should not be allowed to go on without question.

At noon on the 11th we reached the next town, Tiozinossongochta. A Seneca of respectable appearance stood before his house (afterwards I learned that it was the chief) and we went directly toward him. I greeted him in a friendly manner, but he preserved a serious mien. Food was brought out for my two Indian companions, while I was called into the house and served there. The Indian sat down beside me and began to question me as to whence I had come and whither I was going. I told him that I wished to go to Goschgoschging to visit the Indians there. He asked whether that was all. I answered, "Yes, that is it and nothing else." He was silent for a while, then he began again, saying, "but how comes it that you travel such an unfrequented road, which is no road for whites and on which no white man has ever come?" I replied that my business among the Indians was very different from that of other whites, and that, therefore, my mode of travel was of peculiar character, since I came not for trade, or exchange, or of personal gain, but only in order to tell the Indians great and good words. . . . At parting I said to him that I had spoken with him of many things and knew that he would not remember all that I had told him, one word, therefore, I wished to repeat, in order that he might not forget it, namely, that our God and Creator had come from heaven and become a man and had shed His blood for us. Of this he should frequently think and he would find that it would touch his heart. He promised so to do. After I had talked with him two hours so that my Indian companions outside were wondering, I parted from him in a friendly manner, and we continued our journey. The chief's wife had listened to our whole conversation and had been very attentive; all the time that I spoke she did not take her eye from me.

On the morning of the 12th, it rained and during the remainder of the day, continuing until midnight, there was a heavy fall of snow. The snow-storm came from the north-west and was the first of the season. During the whole of this journey we were generally obliged to spend the night out in the open and to cover ourselves with our blankets as well as we could. On this occasion we had a very rough, cold, uneven couch, in a place where there seemed to be nothing but rocks. On the morning of the 13th we came to another Seneca town. Here I met two Onondaga Indians, namely, the brother of the speaker in Onondaga and another who had seen me in Onondaga a year ago and knew me. The former asked us to sit down at his fire and served us with meat. Soon the men of the town gathered about us, they were

very friendly and had no objection to offer to my journey. I was obliged, however, to submit to an entertainment that was not so pleasant for me. They all pressed me to remain with them for the day in order to partake of a feast they were preparing for the whole town. I wished to decline the honor and said to them that I was anxious not to lose any time, the winter being near and there being already so heavy a fall of snow that I feared being snowed in. But they insisted that I should remain with them, because it was the first time I had come into their town. I was obliged to yield, therefore, doing them a favor instead of their doing me one. We were, accordingly, brought into the great house and given quarters there. Two great kettles of meat were immediately hung over the fire and the Indians of the town came in. They discussed and inquired about various matters, amongst the rest, the report that Sir William Johnson was displeased with the Six Nations because they were going to war against the Cherokees. They had heard of it and wondered whether I knew anything about it. I replied that I had heard nothing of the matter, but that the report was very probably true, because I knew that the governors did not like it that they should wage war against the Indians of the south. I, further, stated that I regarded it as their best policy to put a end to their wars and live in peace and tranquillity. In the meantime, the food had been prepared. All dressed and painted themselves in honor of the feast. The repast proceeded in a quiet and orderly manner. So soon as the food had been consumed they hung fresh meat over the fire, for they had about six deer to consume. With the approach of night they prepared for the dance, which might seem very terrible to one not accustomed to the like. They stripped themselves of all their clothing except the strowds girt about their loins and painted both body and face. As soon as singing and the beating of the drum—composed of a small tub with a deer-skin stretched across began, they all went out, only to return shortly in terrible fury, armed with clubs and tomahawks (hatchets), dancing and leaping so that the earth trembled and the house was filled with dust and ashes. The food that was being prepared, meat and soup, was, in consequence, thoroughly spiced with ashes. Though they were stripped, they sweat like horses and were obliged to go out and cool off, now and then. They went through all the exercises of the war dance, and this over, began the singing of herosongs, the drum beating time, in which they celebrated all their heroic deeds, including the claim that they had sometimes defeated the English. When they saw that I wished to rest, they asked me whether I wished to sleep. I answered, "Yes." Then they brought the ceremonies to a close with another meal, after which each one returned quietly to his own house. Thereupon, I read the daily texts to my two companions by the firelight, and we spent the remainder of the night in undisturbed slumber.

With the break of day on the 14th we continued our journey down along the Ohio, which here runs through a mountainous region. Thus far we had not come upon any mountains on our journey, but here they

began and the further down stream we went the higher they became. In places it was difficult to proceed, particularly with horses, because it was necessary, in order to skirt the mountains, to go very close to the edge of the river-bank. The river runs in a west-south-westerly direction, so far as I have followed it. Today we passed through the first flat in this region, having thus far traversed only swampy ground.

In 1750 Zeisberger had made a trip to Geneseo. At that place he was told "the road from here to Ohio leads W. S. W. 70 or 80 miles from here. The Ohio River flows from N. E. and makes a curve S. E. and then S., emptying into the Mississippi. It is a very rapid river with many falls in the upper part, but afterwards is said to flow on a fine, smooth stream." On Friday, June 22-July 3, 1750, he wrote: "On the whole the Sennekas are a much rougher and more savage nation than the Cayugas and Onondagas. I do not see how, at the present time, anyone of our brethren can possibly subsist and live among the Sennekas." Although Zeisberger maintained his mission at Hogstown for about two years, he was finally forced to abandon it.

George Washington had been up the Allegheny River as far as the mouth of the French Creek in 1753 on his trip to Fort Le Boeuf. It is not likely that he had access to Zeisberger's Moravian journal. January 31, 1779, he wrote to General McIntosh: "It will be necessary . . . . to form a judgment of . . . . the distance between Fort Pitt and the Country of the Six Nations, especially the Senecas who are most numerous, warlike and inimical of the whole. . . . When the Northern Indians go to War with the Southern Indians they fall into the Allegany River and come down from thence to Fort Pitt. Whether they travel by land to the Allegany or whether they make use of any water carriage is a matter worth inquiring into, they probably make use of the easiest and most expeditious route, and if it serves them to come down to the Southward, it will be equally useful to us should we penetrate their country."

March 22, 1779, Washington wrote to Colonel Daniel Brodhead, "To enquire when you can be at Venango, when at the head of navigation, how far it is thence to the nearest Indian towns and when you can reach them."

These letters show that Washington, who probably had all the information which could be obtained, had no idea of the course of the Allegheny about Warren, Pennsylvania. Brodhead's account of his expedition in September, 1779, does not tell much in regard to this country. He may have come up the river as far as Cold Spring and

possibly went back through Randolph and down the Conewango. The Indians still tell among themselves of the havoc he made.

The State line between New York and Pennsylvania was surveyed in 1787, and some records of the commissioners are preserved. In 1790 Samuel Maclay wrote a journal of his trip up the Susquehanna and down the Allegheny through Cattaraugus County. In 1791 Colonel Thomas Proctor wrote a journal of his trip by way of Painted Post and the headwaters of the Genesee to the Oil Creek, Olean and down the Allegheny to Franklin, Pennsylvania.

These journals mention the Indian towns and a few of the individual Indians along the river, but the information they give is very meager.

The real history of the Indians in this county begins with the Quaker Mission in 1798. From that time on we can make a continuous story. Joshua Sharpless wrote a diary of the expedition from Philadelphia by a committee of Quakers who came up the river from Philadelphia to Oldtown, called by them Genesinguhta, between Quaker Bridge and Onoville, opposite the mouth of Wolf Run. They built a two-story log house on the river bank opposite the present Oldtown schoolhouse and kept a daily record of their activities which has been continued by the Quakers at Tunesassa down to the present day. In 1803 the Quakers moved their school to the place we call Quaker Bridge. Halliday Jackson was one of the first committee who spent a good deal of time there off and on for twenty years. His published writings give a very complete picture of the Indian settlements at Cornplanter, Oldtown, Quaker Bridge and Cold Spring. Among his most interesting records is a census taken by the Quaker schoolmaster who resided at Tunesassa in 1820, as follows:

In the Twelfth month, this year, the following statistical account of the Indians at Alleghany was furnished to the author by the schoolmaster, who resided among them, which will exhibit the improvements made by about thirty-five families, though it is cause of regret that the account was not completed—there being about forty families more, which were not included.

The date affixed to the names of individuals, is the time the account was taken.

Big John, Tenth month 23, 1820—Has about twenty acres of cleared land, raised eight acres of corn, three acres of oats, half an acre of potatoes, one yoke of oxen, and twenty pigs.

Levi Halftown, blacksmith—Nine and a half acres of land cleared —one yoke of oxen, two cows, one calf, two horses, one plough and oxen chains, seven hogs and eight pigs.

Long John, Tenth month 25; 48 or 50 years of age—Has twelve children by one wife, with whom he still lives—twenty acres of cleared land, seven acres of corn, four of oats, a quantity of potatoes, two yoke of oxen, three cows, one heifer, three calves, twelve hogs, and a number of pigs; one wagon and ploughs.

Stephen, a blacksmith, 56 years old, and son of the ancient Guy-us-hu-ta. Eight acres of corn, four of oats, one of potatoes, four of mowing grass, one yoke of oxen, five cows, six calves, fifteen hogs and pigs, and one plough.

John Jemison, 24 years old. Fifteen acres of cleared land, four acres of oats, one of buckwheat, four of corn, potatoes and beans; sixteen hogs and several pigs, two horses, two cows, one heifer, one calf, one yoke of oxen, one steer. Ploughed last spring about thirty acres of land, twenty-one of which was hired by other Indians at two dollars per acre—has put up a new barn fifty feet long—made new fence to enclose six acres of land the present season.

Big Jacob, 50 years old. Eight or ten acres of cleared land, five acres of corn, four of oats, one of potatoes, one yoke of oxen, three yoke of steers, four cows, one calf, five hogs and near twenty pigs; has sown one bushel of wheat this fall.

Moses Pierce, aged 32. Twenty acres and a half of land, two and a half of corn, three and a half of oats, quarter of potatoes, one and a half of hay, one yoke of oxen, two cows, three young steers, one calf, five hogs and seven pigs; makes ploughs, sleighs and does carpenter work.

John Pierce, Eleventh month 3; aged 56. Twenty acres of cleared land, raised five acres of corn, one and a half of potatoes, four of oats, four of grass, has eight head of cattle, fifteen hogs and pigs.

Eli Jemison, twenty-seven years old. Has begun a new improvement in the woods, and has about three acres cleared—parted with his old field, which contained six acres, raised three acres of corn, half an acre of potatoes, and one acre of turnips, five hogs, one yoke of steers, one cow, one heifer, one plough and wagon.

Simon Pierce, Eleventh month 16; 26 years old. Fourteen acres of land, five acres of corn, three of oats, half an acre of potatoes, two of wheat, three and a half of meadow, two cows, two heifers, two steers, one ox, four hogs, and ten pigs.

Billy, 50 years old. Raised fifty bushels of corn, half an acre of potatoes, one cow, one calf, three hogs.

William Johnson, Twelfth month 2; 50 years old. Eleven acres of land, raised six acres of corn, half an acre of potatoes, quantity of beans, one yoke of oxen, two cows, two heifers, twelve hogs and pigs.

Morris Halftown, First month 31, 1821, 26 years old. Eighteen acres of land, raised last year three and a half acre of corn, six of oats, one and a half of potatoes, two and a half of hay, one yoke of oxen, two cows, three steers, one calf, one horse, four pigs, and three hogs.

Israel Jemison, Second month 2, 30 years of age. Fourteen acres of land cleared, and four more part cleared, three and a half acres of

corn, three of oats, two of buckwheat, half an acre of peas, one of potatoes, one of wheat, two and a half of meadow, two yoke of oxen, two cows, one yoke of steers, six hogs, fourteen pigs; killed in the fall five hogs—one plough, one cart, and log chains.

John Dick, Third month 29; 65 or 70 years old. Had last year two acres of spring wheat, four of oats, three horses and one hog.

Jemison, a blacksmith, 54 years old. Ten and a half acres of land, three horses, two cows, three calves, three hogs and four pigs, and killed three hogs for pork; five acres of corn, one of potatoes, three of oats, half an acre of peas, one plough, and harness for horses.

Jacob Taylor, Fifth month 10, 40 years old. Five and a half acres of land, one yoke of steers, one heifer, four hogs—corn, oats, and potatoes, quantity not mentioned.

James Robeson, Seventh month 1; 48 years of age. Thirteen and a half acres of land, planted five acres of corn, half an acre of potatoes, two acres of spring wheat, three and a half of oats, two and a half of meadow, nine head of cattle, seven hogs, one plough, one harrow, chains and sled.

Blue Eyes. Twelve acres of land, quantity of corn, one acre of wheat, three and a half of oats, sowed half a bushel of flaxseed, two and a half acres of meadow, one yoke of oxen, five cows, three calves, four hogs, twenty-two pigs, five horses, plough, chains.

John Watt, 35 years old. Three acres of corn, half an acre of potatoes, four hogs, twenty-six pigs.

Jonathan Titus, 55 years old. Three acres of land, two cattle, and three pigs.

Jacob Snow, Seventh month 8, 50 years old. Five acres of land, three acres of corn, one and a half of potatoes, one-third of an acre of beans, and four hogs.

Jacob Thomas, 28 or 30 years old. Eight acres of land, three of corn, two of oats, three-quarters of an acre of peas, some potatoes, seven cattle, seven hogs, and seven pigs.

Big John, Seventh month 23; 53 years old. Fourteen acres of land, ten acres of corn, one of potatoes, five of oats, three of meadow, sixteen head of cattle, four horses, and thirteen hogs.

William Halftown, aged 26; Fourteen and a half acres of land, ten of which he lately had cleared, for which he paid fourteen dollars per acre for clearing; one acre of corn, two of oats, two and a half meadow, one yoke of oxen, one cow, one horse, plough, sled, and some bearing apple-trees.

John Bone, 33 years old. Three acres of corn, two of oats, two of meadow, four cattle, one plough.

George Silverheels, 43 years old. Ten and a half acres of land, eight head of cattle, eleven hogs, five acres of corn, one of potatoes, one of oats, one and a half of meadow—has lately commenced a new improvement.

John Lewis, Eighth month 4; 21 years of age. Five acres of land, mostly in with corn, one yoke of steers, one heifer and eight hogs.

Bucktooth, 55 years old. Ten acres of land enclosed, six acres of corn, three horses, one heifer, and eleven hogs.

Jacob Strong, Eight month 14; 32 years old. Eleven acres of land, three of corn, one and a half of potatoes, one and a half of oats, one and a half of meadow, one cow, two heifers, one calf, ten hogs, one plough—has put up a good house with stone chimneys up and down stairs.

Jacob Jemison, Ninth Month 3; 30 years of age; Four acres of corn, one and a half of oats, three-fourths meadow, one yoke of oxen, one cow and about twenty head of swine, one plough and chains.

David Halftown—Five acres of corn, one of buckwheat, two of oats, one of potatoes, two of beans, and other vegetables, one yoke of oxen, two cows, one yoke of steers, five hogs, one plough and chains.

Fight Thompson, 34 years of age. Three acres of corn, half an acre of potatoes, one patch of turnips, one yoke of oxen, one calf, five hogs and one plough.

William Patterson, Tenth month 1, 28 years old. Four acres of corn, two of oats, two cows, and nine hogs, which he is fattening.

From the foregoing account of thirty-five families, it appears they had about four hundred and forty acres of cleared land, one hundred and fifteen of which was cultivated with corn, seventy-one with oats, nine with wheat, seventeen with potatoes and thirty-two in meadow ground. They possessed twenty-six horses, twenty-two yoke of oxen, one hundred and fifty-five other cattle, and nearly four hundred head of swine. But little account is given of their improvements in building—this having been heretofore noticed in this work.

From this list we may conclude that there were in 1820 about seventy-five families on the reservation and that they were much better supplied with live stock and much better farmers than they are at the present time. This must have been due to the active influence and instruction of the Quakers who in twenty-five years had changed the Senecas of the Allegany Reservation from savages to civilized farmers.

The ancient government of the Seneca Nation was by chiefs elected from the different clans and usually holding office for life. In 1848 pursuant to several acts of the State Legislature a constitution was adopted by the Seneca Indians of the Allegany and Cattaraugus reservations which was approved and recognized by the United States Government. This is shown by a letter from the office of Indian Affairs in the War Department, dated February 2, 1849, signed by William Meddill. This constitution was approved by a concurrent resolution of the New York State Legislature, March 27, 1849. Since that time the government of the Seneca Nation has been carried on pursuant to their constitution which has several times been amended. The amendments have been ratified by the State Legislature and by acts of Con-

gress. By Chapter 188 of the Laws of 1881, the general laws of the State of New York were extended and made to apply to the leased lands on the reservation pursuant to the Act of Congress passed in 1875, which authorized the leases. The Indian Law of the State of New York makes many provisions for the conduct of the government and tribal affairs of the Seneca Nation. The officers include a president, treasurer and clerk, sixteen councillors, one surrogate on each reservation, three peacemakers on each reservation, and a varying number of minor officers.

The Donaldson Report published by the United States Census Bureau in 1892, which was largely written by Henry B. Carrington, gives very complete descriptions of the Seneca Nation at that time. The following are quotations from this report:

The Pagan Faith—The statement of Andrew John, Jr., that "knowledge of the pagan faith would show it to be more beautiful and moral than the Christian," was a step in the inquiry. He was interpreter for the Quaker minister, Rebecca K. Masters, at Carrollton Council House, when George S. Scattergood and party from Philadelphia made a visit in the fall of 1890. The contrast of the interpreted words with pagan ideas led to fuller inquiry as to the ceremonies among the pagans which they call "religious," and subsequent attendance at all of them, from the autumn green-corn dance and worship to the closing "feather dance," which closes the celebration of the Indian New Year. Friend George S. Scattergood, following the example of his father, had also fallen upon the same line of inquiry, and formed the opinion that many of the old people in the ceremonies of their belief actually render unto God the sincere homage of prayerful and thankful hearts. The simplest form of inquiries, slowly interpreted, left the same conclusion upon the mind of the enumerator of these people. At the same time it was equally apparent that the younger portion, almost without exception, treated days of pagan ceremony much as they would a corn husking, full of fun, but without religion.

The New Religion—The "new religion," as the teachings of Handsome Lake have been called, did not displace the old ceremonies of earlier times. He was a Seneca sachem of the Turtle tribe, a half-brother of Cornplanter, was born near Avon about the year 1735, and died in 1815, at Onondaga, while there upon a pastoral or missionary visit. About the year 1800, after a dissipated life and a very dangerous illness, he claimed to have had dreams or visions, through which

he was commissioned by the Great Spirit to come to the rescue of his people. His first efforts were to eradicate intemperance. He mingled with his teachings the fancies of his dreams or convictions, claiming that he had been permitted to see the branching paths which departed spirits were accustomed to take on leaving the earth. His grandson, Sase-he-wa, nephew of Red Jacket and his delegated successor, long resident of Tonawanda, amplified his views in many forcible addresses,



THE SENECA INDIAN GARDEN
A Feature of the Nature Study Course of the
Allegany School of Natural History

which are full of wild poetic conceptions, yet ever teaching the value of marriage, respect for parents and the aged, and many lessons from the old Hebrew Bible, which besides the Ten Commandments, had been incorporated into the "new religion" of Handsome Lake. Of the future state, he taught that "one branch road, at death, led straight forward to the house of the Great Spirit, and the other turned aside to the house of torment. At the place where the roads separated were stationed 2 keepers, 1 representing the good and the other the evil

spirit. When a wicked person reached the fork he turned instinctively, by a motion of the evil spirit, upon the road which led to the abode of the evil-minded, but if virtuous and good the other keeper directed him upon the straight road. The latter was not much traveled, while the other was so often trodden that no grass could grow in the pathway." "To a drunkard was given a red-hot liquid to drink, as if he loved it, and as a stream of blaze poured from his mouth he was commanded to sing as when on earth after drinking fire water." "Husbands and wives who had been quarrelsome on earth were required to rage at each other until their eyes and tongues ran out so far that they could neither see nor speak." "A wife beater was led up to a red-hot statue, which he was to strike as he struck his wife when on earth, and sparks flew out and burned his arm to the bone." "A lazy woman was compelled to till a cornfield of weeds, which grew again as fast as she pulled them." "A woman who sold fire water was nothing but bones, for the flesh had been eaten from her hands and arms." "To those who sold the lands of their people it was assigned to move a never diminishing mound of sand." By such terrific and pertinent imagery Handsome Lake and his successors wrought a deep place in the confidence of the old pagan party throughout their field of labor.

Religious Dances—With all this, the more ancient rites do not yield their place, and the perpetuated songs of remote ancestors still echo to the beat of the kettledrum and the turtle rattle at every recurring celebration of the days observed several hundred years ago. Only now and then is found a man who can carry the whole text of the refrain through the protracted measures of the leading dances, but there are a few such, and the heart throbs with strange emotions, never lost, even after hearing several recitals of their stirring appeals. They embody all the true spirit there is in the Iroquois religion.

The war dance, still preserved, has the striking feature of allowing witty speeches, cutting repartee, personal hits, and every conceivable utterance that will stimulate either laughter or action. The great feather dance, the religious dance, consecrated to the worship of the Great Spirit, is given in part as an illustration of the religious sentiment which pervades their old music, rising far above the ancient ceremonies of Greece or Rome, and so contrasted by Elias Johnson, a genial and companionable Tuscarora, in his interesting book upon the history of his people.

At the New Year's festivities at Newtown Council House, in the pagan section of Cattaraugus, January, 1891, this dance followed the thanksgiving dance and rounded out the ceremonies of the closing year.

At the great fireplace at one end of the council house large cauldrons were fiercely boiling, stirred with long poles by the shawl-wrapped women, who were preparing the feast of boiled corn and beans, while two other kettles, equally large, suspended by chains over a fire behind the building, provided a relay of repast if the first should fall short. Astride a bench placed lengthwise in the middle of the hall sat vis-à-vis the leader and the prompter of dance and song, surrounded by two raised benches filled with men, women, and children of all ages. Eight representatives of the Iroquois tribes, in divisions of four, had been selected to lead off the dance. At the appointed hour there gathered from the cabins that surrounded the large open space where the council house is located nearly eighty men and boys, who were costumed appropriately for the occasion. The headdresses were of varied patterns, from the single eagle feather to the long, double trailing feather ornament which the Sioux wear in battle, and which, streaming out behind as he dashes about in action, more completely represent him as some uncouth beast than a real man. The men wore ornamental aprons before and behind, while every muscle stood forth round and compact through the closely fitting knit garment that covered the upper part of the body, and rarely has there been such a display of athletic forms. Silver bracelets, armlets, necklaces, and brooches, the inheritance of generations, were parts of their adornment. Strings of bells were fastened around the knees, and the costumes varied from the rich variety of Ed. Cornplanter's equipment down to that of an old man who had pinned two faded United States flags to the skirt of his coat through want of anything older or richer. Unlike the parties to the green-corn dance at Cold Spring in September, only one used paint upon the cheeks. The women wore their good clothes as if on a social visit.

All was ready! The slight touch of the turtle rattles gradually increased in rapidity as party after party fell into line and caught step and cadence, which constantly developed in volume, until the leader sounded the opening chant for the dance to begin. The whole song, lasting nearly an hour, consisted of a series of measured verses each of two minutes' duration. It is difficult to describe the step. The heel is raised by two or three inches and brought down by muscular strength to keep time with the drum and make a resounding noise by the concussion and at the same time shake the knee rattles. Every figure is erect,

while the arms assume every possible graceful position to bring the muscles into full play. Although eighty men and forty women engaged in the dance and slowly promenaded during the necessary rests from the violent exercise of such swift motion, all was orderly, decent, and without vulgarity or rudeness. The recitative portions were varied by addresses of gratitude to the Great Spirit, acknowledging every good gift to man. A few passages of the refrain are given as translated many years ago by Ely S. Parker and sung by his grandfather. They have been handed down from generation to generation.

Hail! Hail! Hail! Listen now, with an open ear, to the words of Thy people as they ascend to Thy dwelling! Give to the keepers of Thy faith wisdom to execute properly Thy commands! Give to our warriors and our mothers strength to perform the sacred ceremonies of Thy institution! We thank Thee that Thou hast preserved them pure to this day.

Continue to listen. We thank Thee that the lives of so many of Thy children have been spared to participate in the exercises of this occasion.

Then follow thanks for the earth's increase and a prayer for a prosperous year to come, then for the rivers and streams, for the sun and moon, for the winds that banish disease, for the herbs and plants that benefit the sick, and for all things that minister to good and happiness.

The closing passage is given as the rapidly increased step and tread almost die out in a subdued cadence.

Lastly, we return thanks to Thee, our Creator and Ruler! In Thee are embodied all things! We believe Thou canst do no evil; that Thou doest all things for our good and happiness. Should Thy people disobey Thy commands, deal not harshly with them; but be kind to us, as Thou hast been to our fathers in times long gone by. Hearken to our words as they have ascended, and may they be pleasing to Thee, our Creator, the preserver of all things visible and invisible. Na ho!

Thus strangely do the elements of revealed and natural religion come into contrasting and yet sympathetic relation. The Six Nations Indian is never an atheist. The pagans point to their quiet homes, however lowly, rarely protected by locks, to the infrequency of crimes, and even of minor offenses, unless when fired by the white man's whisky or hard cider, and challenge proof of greater security or contentment. During seven months of enumeration of this people neither vulgarity nor profanity was noticed, while it was repeatedly forced upon the attention when resuming contact with the white man's world

outside. The women move in an inside circle with faces bowed and turned toward the rattles or the kettledrum, with all the solemnity of real convictions that in some way they are recognizing and invoking divine aid.

At the present time (1939) the organization of the Seneca Nation continues substantially as it has been since 1848. The officers are elected every two years. June first in every year $2,500 out of the rentals paid by the white leaseholders is paid by the United States Indian Agent to the treasurer of the Seneca Nation. This money is used by the Council to pay the salaries and expenses of the Indian government. The United States Indian Agent collects the lease rentals and has an annual census taken to keep track of the Indians who are entitled to share in the annuities paid by the government and in the division of rentals. The council and officers under the constitution and statutes carry on the public affairs of the Nation. Some relics of the ancient tribal organization still exist but without official authority. The old Indian festivals at New Year's, Strawberry Dance, Green Corn Dance, Harvest Dance, and other less known dances and ceremonies of the various false face and medicine societies, the dead feast and purification ceremonies are all kept up, many of them without publicity, as they were five hundred years ago. Within the last month the Green Corn Dance, lasting a week, was held at the Cold Spring Council House. Within the last week a medicine society dance was held in the Council House with many of the features described by Zeisberger in 1767, and by Mr. Carrington in 1892. Many books and articles have been written describing these ceremonies, and the reader who desires to learn about them has a large field for study. There are many churches of various denominations throughout the reservations. The State supports district schools and the older scholars are taken to high school in buses. The State and Federal governments join in administering relief. The State furnishes doctors and an attorney. The State pays the school teachers. The roads are maintained at State expense, and during the past few years various projects for "throwing money in the bushes" as the Indians say, have been carried out by the Federal government on these reservations as elsewhere.

CHAPTER XXXVII

Pioneer Settlers of Cattaraugus Towns

Cattaraugus County was erected by an Act of the New York Legislature on March 11, 1808, from a part of Genesee County. This same Act established the whole territory as the town of Olean. Several parts of the area had been settled prior to 1808, and more before 1817, when the county really began to function. For the purpose of this brief chapter the term "pioneer settlers" is limited to those who were among the first to locate more or less permanently in the present numerous towns. Those who help found the cities and villages, Olean, Salamanca, Gowanda, and Ellicottville will be omitted because they are named in other chapters in this volume on the history of these municipalities. Authorities differ as to the first settlers of certain localities and as to the spelling of their names. A choice has been made arbitrarily, and the reader is asked to recall that the ancient records of towns were often badly preserved when not lost entirely; that what we now know of them is often based on the memories of those who came after the pioneers. Incidentally our forefathers were commonly careless about their spelling—our foremothers won the spelling bees. An alphabetical order is adopted rather than the chronological sequence of erection of towns to facilitate ready reference.

Allegany, the largest town in area, formed from Great Valley as Burton, April 18, 1831, was first settled at the mouth of Five-Mile Run, in 1820, by Ebenezer Reed, from Connecticut. Andrew L. Allen, Hiram Wood, James Strong, Isaac Eggleston, Amos B. and David Orton came during the following year.

Ashford was formed from Ellicottville, February 16, 1824. Settlement began in 1817 by Henry Frank and his sons, Andrew and Jacob, from Herkimer County, New York. Nathan Sanders, Samuel Flagg, John Goodemote, Amos and Daniel Thomas, Marcena Brooks,

Gamaliel Sampson, Calvin Woodruff, and Augustus Slyke were other pioneers.

Carrollton, taken from Great Valley, March 9, 1842, was named for Guy Carrollton Ervine, one of the original proprietors. Stephen



(Courtesy of Maud D. Brooks)

1829 MAP OF CATTARAUGUS COUNTY
Formerly owned by Judge James Brooks

and Jesse Morrison located in 1828, and are said to have built the first sawmill, although Marcus Leonard is often credited with this achievement. Aaron Kellogg, Jonathan Fuller, Charles Foster, Horace Howe, James O. Beardsley, Samuel Webber, Peter Zeliff, and Elias Bowen were other well-known early inhabitants.

Cold Spring, erected from Napoli, March 20, 1837, covered an acreage purchased from the Holland Land Company in 1819 by Philip Tome, Artemus Houghton, Jesse Hotchkiss, Milton Helms, and Isaac Dow. Tome is the one of this number who doubtless was the first settler, for he had trapped and hunted in the vicinity prior to the purchase. Charles Crook set out the first orchard, 1823, and had built the first private mill during the previous year. He with his three sons, Charles, Jr., Ira, and Nathan, all from Vermont, settled on Lot No. 32. The first birth in the territory now included in the town was that of Martha, daughter of Charles Crook, Jr., in the spring of 1824.

Conewango, formed from Little Valley, January 20, 1823, was first settled by Eliphalet Follet, near Rutledge, in 1816. James Battle came a year later, Ciras Childs in 1818, and prior to 1820, Sampson Crooker, David Davison, Ezra Amadon, Calvin Treat, Hiram Camp, William Holbrook, and the McGlashems had all arrived. Northrup, Wyllys and Wood were other well-known names of this period. Sampson Crooker built, in 1819, the first sawmill in the town, on Mill Creek. The first gristmill was erected in 1821, by Calvin Treat, near the center of the town. Mrs. Sampson Crooker, during the winter of 1819, killed with a pair of tongs a wildcat at her henroost.

Dayton, erected from Perrysburg, February 7, 1835, was pioneered by Simeon Bunce and Silas Nash, in 1810, and were followed by others within a few years, such as Timothy M. Shaw, Heman and Anson C. Merrill, Ralph Johnson, Joshua and Caleb Webb, Leman H. and James P. Pitcher, M. C. Nickerson, and Azariah Barbee, Samuel K. Strickland, Thomas Newcomb. The first child born in the town was Amos Nash, in June, 1811; and the first death was that of DeWitt, son of Silas Nash, in February, 1812.

East Otto, a part of Otto until November 30, 1854, had its first settlement made as early as 1810 by Joseph Allen, Ahaz Allen, Joseph Adams, Joseph Hill and Allen King, along Cattaraugus Creek. In 1816, Joseph Bates and Horace Wells located near East Otto; Samuel Tuthill, Moses T. and Tyler M. Beach, father and son, in 1821. Moses T. Beach built the first sawmill in the town in 1823, and the first gristmill in 1824.

Elko, last town created in the county, was taken from South Valley, November 26, 1890. The first settlers here were the earliest in Cattaraugus County, Joel Swayne, Halliday Jackson and Henry

Simons, Quakers, in May, 1798. They represented the endeavors of the Friends Society, of Philadelphia, to aid the Indians spiritually and physically. While the mission of these young men succeeded, all returned home or went elsewhere before men like Elzi Flagg, Charles Smith, Norman Brown, Leonard Barton, and Zabin Wright settled permanently many years later. Prior to these, in the 1820s in fact, were Edmund Dudley, Jonathan Fairbank, Ira Fish, Alexander Ross, Asa Franklin, Ebenezer Coller, Ezra Amadon, Richard Oathout, all of whom were conspicuous in establishing industries and business places.

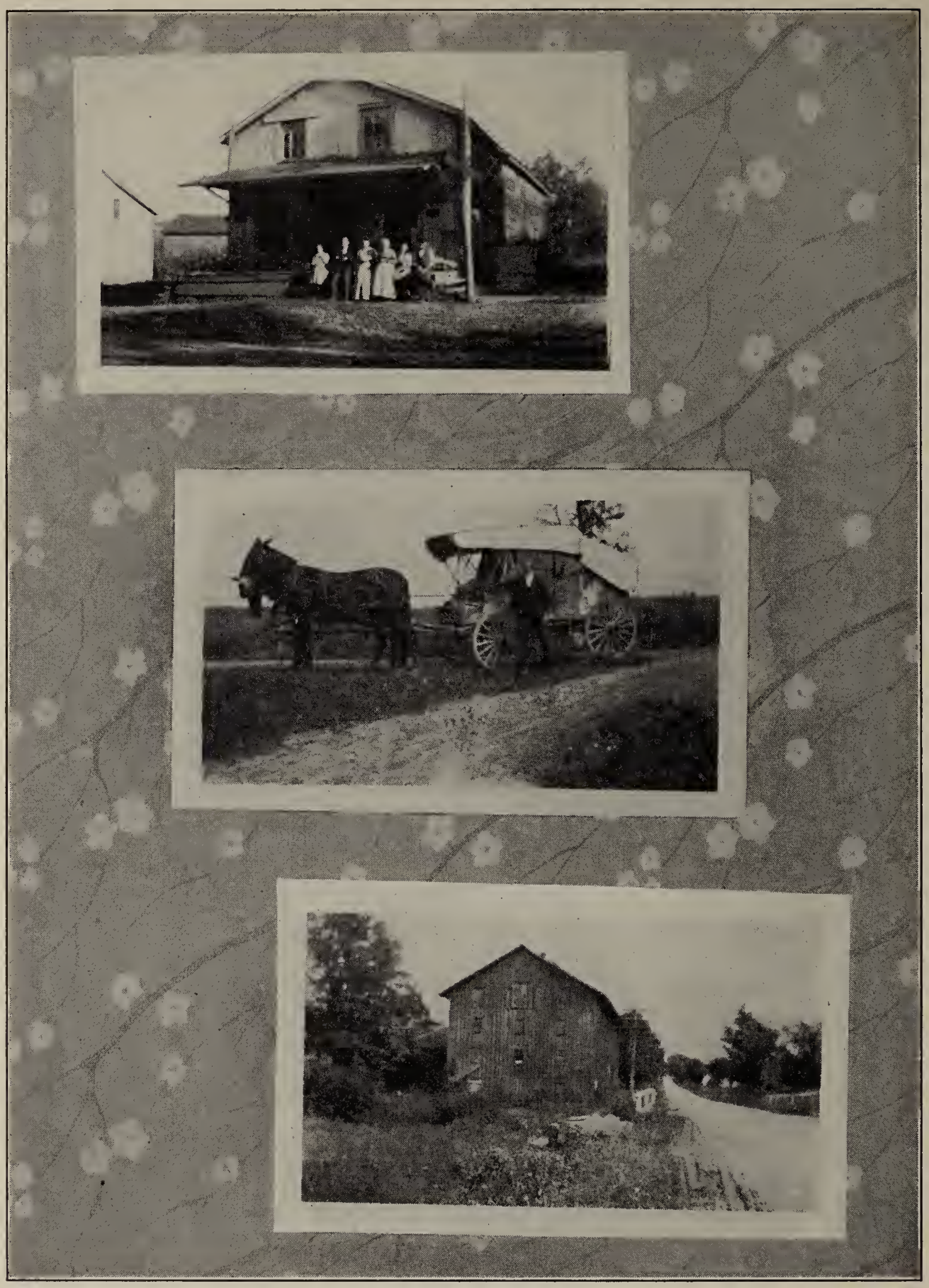
Ellicottville was formed from Ischua, April 13, 1820. (See "History of Ellicottville" in this work.)

Farmersville, erected from Ischua, March 29, 1821, received its first settlers in 1816; Peleg Robbins, Levi Petee, Cornelius and Peter TenBroeck, and Richard Tozer, all from Otsego County, New York. Reuel Robbins came in 1817, and Daniel Hoggen in 1819.

Franklinville, formed from Olean, June 16, 1812, was first settled on the site of the village of the same name, in March, 1806, by Joseph McClure, agent of the Holland Land Company, who located his tract in 1805. Other pioneers of that same year were David McClure, Samuel L. Hollister, and Solomon Curtis. Thomas Morris and Henry Conrad arrived the next year. Other early settlers were Daniel, John and Nicholas Cortwright, Timothy Butler, Jeremiah Burroughs, Moses Warner, John McNall, Isaac Searl, Aaron Osgood, William Older, Pardon T. Jewel, Ephraim Fitch, William Sill, and John Reynolds.

Freedom, taken from Ischua, April 13, 1820, was first settled in 1811, by Warren Stanley and Ezekiel Reynolds, from New Hampshire; and Earl Lawyer, Rufus Metcalf, and Enoch Howlett, from Vermont.

Great Valley, organized from Olean, April 15, 1818, was pioneered in 1812 by Judge James Green at the mouth of Great Valley Creek. Next was Judge Benjamin Chamberlain, Jr., who was elected sheriff of the county in 1817, or during the previous year. In 1813 came Jeremy Wooster, first surrogate of the county. Other worthy pioneers were James Rosenberry, Abraham Wright, Ebenezer Willoughby and Nicholas Flint.



(Courtesy of Mrs. Leonora Lawrence)

TOP: THE OLD STORE AT NEW ALBION VILLAGE, CATTARAUGUS COUNTY, ABOUT 1908-09. CENTER: CHARLES RHOADS, OF A PIONEER NAPOLI FAMILY, HAD A STORE IN THE OLD HOTEL AT NEW ALBION AND PEDDLED GROCERIES ABOUT THE COUNTRY. PICTURE TAKEN IN 1922. BOTTOM: THE OLD CHEESE FACTORY (NEW ALBION VILLAGE, 1908-09). IT HAS SINCE BEEN TORN DOWN

Hinsdale was taken from Olean, April 14, 1820. Settlement first began near the site of Hinsdale Village, in 1806, by Horace, Zachariah and Seymour Noble, Charles Foot and Thomas Lusk. Peter Putnam, Lewis Wood, Emery Yates, Elihu Murray, Bibbins Follett were other pioneers.

Humphrey, erected May 12, 1836, from Burton, was first settled in 1815, by Russel Chappell, for whom Chapellsburg (better known as Humphrey), was named. Other early settlers were Alonzo Berry, Abijah Rowley, Nathan Howe, Thomas Scott, Stephen S. Cole, Foster B. Salsberry, and Joseph Learn.

Ischua, set off from Hinsdale, February 7, 1846, was first known as the town of Rice. Settlement was commenced on Ischua Creek, in 1812, by Abram M. Farwell and Seymour Bouton. William Kimball and Amos Pitcher arrived as early as 1815, and the first of later settlers were George H. Miner, Joel Godfrey, Horace Guilds, David Hibner, and Anthony Caswell.

Leon, organized from Conewango, April 24, 1832, was settled along Mud Creek in 1818, by James Franklin and James, Jr. Shortly after came the two Abner Wises, father and son, Thomas W. Cheney, Edmund Dudley, Robert Durfee, James Coe, Harlow Beach, and William Morrison.

Little Valley was formed from Perry (Perrysburg), April 10, 1818. In 1807 John Green and Judge Benjamin Chamberlain located near the present village of Little Valley, but left during the War of 1812. Of other ante-war settlers were Luther Stewart, William Gillmore, David Powers, and Alpheus Bascom. Post-war arrivals included Stephen Crosby (1816), Noah Culver, Enoch, David and Alvin Chase, John Stratton, and Nathaniel Bryant.

Lyndon, erected from Franklinville, January 24, 1829, was first settled in 1808 by Solomon and William Rawson. J. Simons, David, Seth and Jephtha Markham came a year later.

Machias dates from April 16, 1827, being taken from Yorkshire. Settlements began below the village of Machias, in 1813, by Timothy Butler and Jeremiah Ballard from Maine. Joseph Kinney located in the section in 1815; Charles and Jonas R. Button and John Moreau in 1816; Elijah E. Ashcroft in 1817; John Farrar and Obadiah Vaughn in 1818.

Mansfield was taken from Little Valley, as Cecelius, February 23, 1830. The probabilities are that a party of French from Canada

dwelt in this region long before the coming of Amos Morgan, in 1817, to locate on Lot No. 33. He was followed, in 1819, by Nathaniel Fish; by Samuel L. Hollister, in 1821; Aaron Razey, in 1821; Jacob B. Van Aernam, in 1822, and John Chapman and Samuel Harvey. Other pioneers were Reuben and Limon Newton, Asa R. Keene, Robert Kidney, Jarvis Walton, Jacob Galloway, Enos Eddy, David and Asher Skinner, Timothy Morgan, Joshua Parmelee, James Huggins, Sylvanus Stebbins, Cyrus Galloway, Linus Lattin, Alexander Stone, and Liverius McKay.

Napoli, erected from Little Valley, January 20, 1823, was first settled by Major Timothy Butler, in 1818. During the following year locations were established by John W. Morill, Timothy Board-



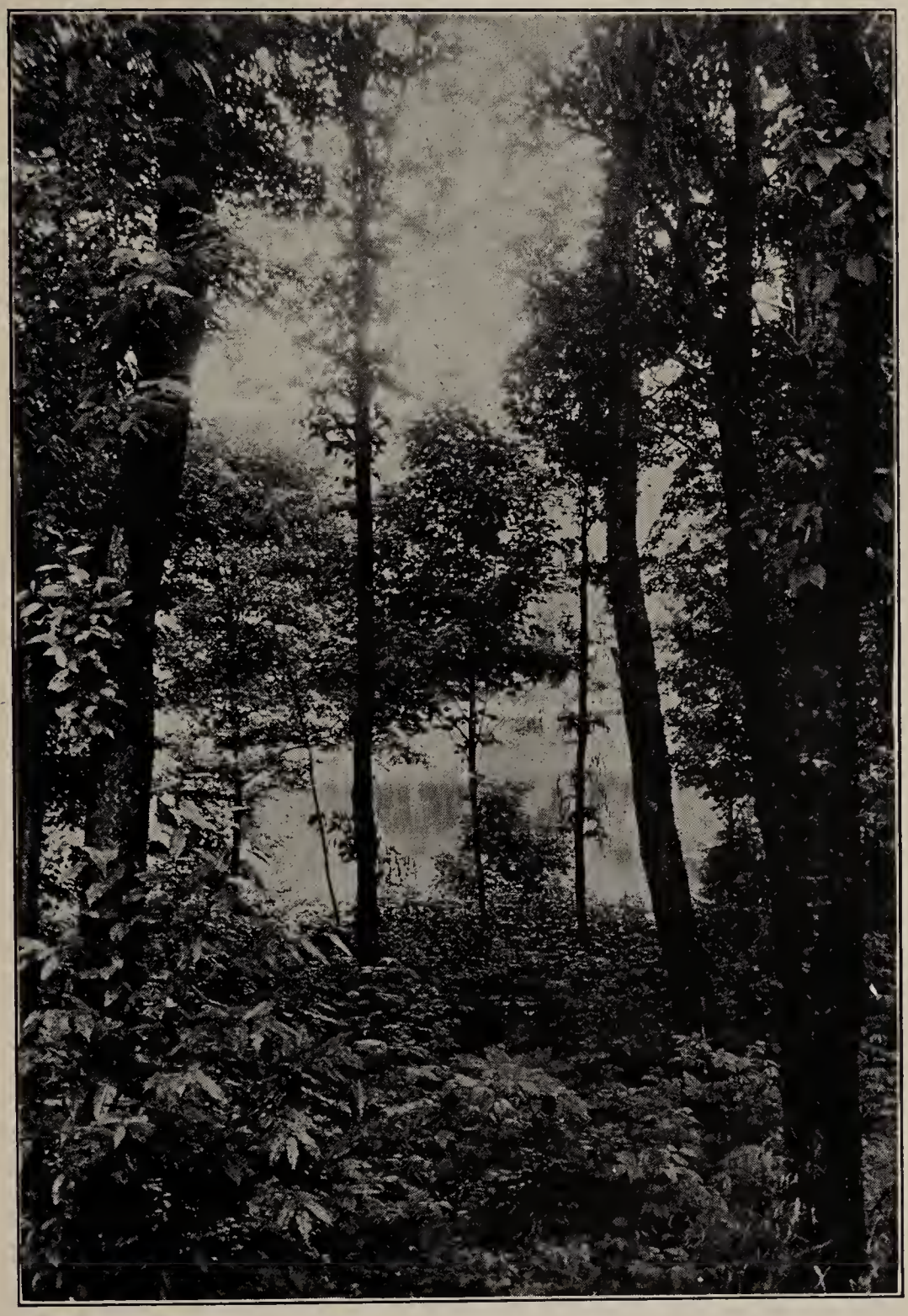
VIEW OF FRANKLINVILLE, FROM CEMETERY, 1893

man, George Hill, John Wellman, Harvey Parmalee, Harlow Butler, and Sargeant Morill. Nelson Boardman came in 1821, Isaac Merrill in 1822, William Case in 1824, Seneca Morton in 1826, Silas Miller and Orin Booth in 1827.

New Albion was established from Little Valley, February 23, 1830. Its first comer was Mathew Dimmick, who seems to have been only a squatter. Later in that same year James Goddard located on Lot No. 9, where he opened a tavern. In 1818 Benjamin Chamberlain arrived and remained until 1824. Other settlers of a more permanent character were Jonathan Kinnicutt, 1819; John A. Kinnicutt and Jeremiah Maybee, 1821. The village of New Albion is the oldest business center in the town, having a store as early as 1833 opened by Erastus Horth. Cattaraugus, the main village, dates from May, 1851, but as early as 1830, Henry Snyder had begun making potash on the site of the place.

Olean (see "History of Olean," by Miss Maud D. Brooks.)

Otto was set up from Perrysburg, January 29, 1823. Joseph Bartlett was its pioneer, 1810. General Phineas Orr settled along



VIEW FROM MAIN SCHOOL BUILDING, ALLEGANY SCHOOL OF NATURAL HISTORY

Cattaraugus Creek, in 1811, and Samuel Hill located on this same tract in 1814. Davis Benedict, Isaac Ballard, Benjamin Stevens, Ira Waterman, John Beverly, Ephraim Brown, Hervey and Abel N. But-

ler were arrivals of 1818. Other pioneers include: Benjamin Austin, Luther Town, Alexander Little, Robert McDuffie, James Barber, Simeon Waterman, Vin Plumb, Charles H. Morris, and Champlin Babcock.

Perrysburg, which was set off from the towns of Olean and Ischua and named for Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, was organized April 13, 1814. From it have been taken sixteen towns. The honor of being its first settler is usually accorded to John Clark, the date 1815. By 1818 the present town of Perrysburg had forty-nine land owners, the most of whom, however, never developed their holdings. Phineas Spencer, 1815, was another "first," and 1816's settlers were Hugh Campbell, William Cooper, Truman Edwards, Daniel Johnson, Simeon Waterman, Ralph Griswold, and Stephen Crocker. Among those who came in 1817 were Elanson Dewey, Ephraim Walker, Abel Jolles, George Fowler, and Samuel G. Strickland. Following these came Abraham and Jonathan G. Rugg, John and Daniel Prosser, Benjamin Waterman, John Dawley, Daniel Brand, Joseph Putney, John Haven, Charles Blackney, Thomas Townsend, Elijah Wells, John and David Parker, Noah Cook, and John Eaton.

Persia was established from Perrysburg, February 7, 1835. The story of its development is told in the "History of Gowanda" in this volume.

Portville was erected from Olean, April 27, 1837. William Atherton located in the area in 1809, and built the first sawmill in the town. Rodolphus Scott (1827), Smith Parish (1830), Milton Main (1831), William Wheeler and Luman Rice (1834) were other pioneers.

Randolph, formed from Conewango, February 1, 1826, has a settlement made on the site of the village of the same name, in 1820, by Edmond Fuller, Jacob Van Dewaker, Timothy Torrance, Otis Hitchcock, Solomon Nicholas, Darius Bowen, Sylvester Caswell, all of whom were living in the district by 1829.

Red House, set off from Salamanca, November 23, 1869, derived its name from a house of that color on the bank of the Allegheny. The first settler was Darius Frink, 1828, and the second, James Rosenburry in 1833. Others of an early day were Hubbard Clark, William Coan, L. Whaley, and Abner Thomas.

Salamanca (see "History of Salamanca," by Charles E. Congdon).

South Valley, erected from Randolph and Cold Spring, April 2, 1847, was settled under the auspices of the Society of Friends of Philadelphia, in 1798. Their saw and gristmill, while primarily constructed for the Indians, served many white people. In 1834, Elzi Flagg started a farm and is considered the first settler aside from the Quakers.

Yorkshire, taken from Franklinville, April 13, 1820, had for its first white settler, in 1810, one Abner Bump. Other pioneers were Thomas Dow, Benjamin and William Falch, Isaac Williams, Luther Thompson, Solomon, David and Chauncey Clark, George Graham, and Lewis M. Fisk.

CHAPTER XXXVIII

Civil and Political History

By Alfred Spring, LL. D.

"People will not look forward to posterity who never look back to their ancestors."

It is eminently fitting that we, residents of this splendid county, should celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of its organization, and review the deeds of the settlers who laid broad and deep the foundation for the county's growth.*

A retrospect of a hundred years will compel respect and veneration for these people who carved a prosperous county out of the forest; and it will inspire the youth with the determination to emulate their energy and thrift.

The home of the Six Nations or Iroquois Confederacy, as far back as our annals go, was in the State of New York between the Hudson and Genesee rivers. The Senecas occupied the western part of this vast territory. The Eries, an independent tribe, dwelt west of the Genesee River to Lake Erie. They were unfriendly to the Senecas, and about the middle of the seventeenth century a war of extermination was carried on between the two tribes. The Eries were conquered and the few survivors were driven from the home of their fathers and their tribal identity seems to have become extinct. The Senecas thus by conquest acquired the territory, although the great body of the tribe remained near the Genesee River until impelled to move westward by the advancing tide of civilization.

The proprietors of the Holland Land Company purchased of Robert Morris, who had acquired the same from the State of Massa-

* The following excerpts are from the "Historical Address" prepared by the Hon. Alfred Spring, LL. D., for the Cattaraugus County Centennial, held at Salamanca, on August 4, 5 and 6, 1908. It is eminently worthy of publication in a permanent form. Only such parts are omitted as have been written upon at length by other authors in this volume.—Editor.

chusetts, the land west of the Genesee River. The sale was confirmed and the Indian interest extinguished at a noted assemblage of Seneca chiefs at Big Tree, now Geneseo. The commissioners representing the United States Government and the State of Massachusetts, were present at the council and assented to the Indian conveyance.

The Holland Land Company was composed of Dutch capitalists residing in Holland, and they purchased this vast tract as a speculation, intending to parcel it out to actual settlers. The tract was sur-



(Photo Courtesy of John C. Krieger Collection)

CITY HALL, SALAMANCA, ABOUT 1902

veyed into ranges, townships and lots in 1798 or 1799, under the direction of Joseph Ellicott. He continued his connection with the company for a quarter of a century, was faithful in its service, and a man of ability, character and strength of purpose.

The Iroquois braves were not prone to the tillage of the soil and their habitations were pitched upon the borders of the many lakes in our State and along its rivers and larger streams. When the Holland Land Company became vested with the title of the lands referred to,

the few Senecas in our county were along the banks of the Allegheny River and its tributaries. Fish was a substantial part of their food supply, and the rivers and streams were navigable for their canoes. They were not interested in the development of the territory, manual toil was not particularly enticing, and they were content with the easy life they led. They were hardy, courageous, invincible in war with their red enemies, and were on the warpath to conquer. The feudal barons in the heights of their matchless strength did not surpass the Iroquois braves in the exclusiveness of their demeanor. They were the aboriginal aristocrats. They did not consort with the other tribes. Their hands were inured to drawing the bow, and wielding the tomahawk, but they bore no callouses from physical toil.

In 1798 three Quaker representatives of the Society of Friends purchased three hundred acres of land in the southwestern part of the county on the Allegheny River, and established a mission with the view to the advancement and Christianization of the Indians. They built a sawmill, cleared some land, but the early fruition of their humane efforts was not apparent, and they soon abandoned the enterprise. The project was not a failure. It was revived in 1812 and from that time on the Quakers have been ceaseless in their endeavors to promote the welfare of the red men and to shield them from the rapacity of their white neighbors.

Major Adam Hoops was the real Aeneas of the unexplored country. On January 30, 1803, he purchased by contract twenty thousand acres of the Holland Land Company, a large part of which comprised what is now the southeastern part of Cattaraugus County, including the city of Olean. A deed of this tract was taken by Major Hoops in 1807, and he gave back a purchase money mortgage of over $10,000. Under this acquisition in 1804, Major Hoops, with his brother Robert, and David Heusten, began the settlement where Olean now is. He had been a Revolutionary soldier and for a time served as staff officer for General Washington and named his embryonic city "Hamilton," for the distinguished patriot and statesman who had also been on the staff of the commander-in-chief.

Major Hoops was attracted to the location for his settlement in the fond hope that the Allegheny River was to be the great waterway to the far west, in the expectation that its banks would be lined with thrifty settlers and the fountain shipping point would be the place of his new purchase, where he first pitched his humble habitation. The tide of emigration from central New York did for a time roll overland to Olean and embark westward by rafts or boats on the river,

but the restless travelers were in quest of land more easily tilled than the forest covered soil in western New York. Hoop's investment was not a financial success. The mortgage upon the property was foreclosed and he returned to his home in Pennsylvania and died in 1845; and even the name of his settlement was soon changed to the more euphonious "Olean." His patriotic fidelity to the Revolutionary patriots and the early fathers is still perpetuated in the names of the streets of that city: Union, Laurens, Jay, Clinton, Sullivan, Barry, etc. Robert Hoops erected the first dwelling house, and several other families soon came and permanently located in the new settlement and their descendants for three generations have made this their abiding place.

The next settlement was made in 1806 by Joseph McClure within the confines of the present village of Franklinville, which for some time was known as McClure's Settlement. He had been a surveyor for the Holland Land Company and continued in that capacity and with becoming loyalty laid out all the highways in that vicinity converging to his habitation. McClure was a sturdy, aggressive character, prominent in the early history of the county, an officer in one of the militia regiments, a general in the War of 1812, member of Assembly in 1814-15, in the district comprising Cattaraugus, Chautauqua and Niagara counties, long a justice of the peace, clerk of the county and of the board of supervisors, and retained the confidence of the citizens of the county until his death in 1833.

The first gristmill in the county and a prime necessity for the early settlers was erected in 1807 or 1808 by Henry Conrad on the Ischua Creek, two miles below McClure's Settlement and until a recent period one has been continuously maintained on the same site. In 1806 also the present town of Hinsdale was settled and other settlements were made, although the population in 1810 was only 458, and in 1814, 517.

The Legislature of the State of New York passed an act March 11, 1808, providing for the organization of Cattaraugus County. The act defined the boundaries as they now exist, and the county was separated from Genesee, of which it had formed a part since 1802. There was little necessity for creating a separate organization at that time. There were less than three hundred inhabitants within its borders. Olean was its only town, with here and there a small settlement. The large domain was covered with virgin forest without roads or land ready for tillage, or shelter for the incoming settler. The provisions of the act indicate that the Legislature realized the inhabitants

were insufficient in number to justify the immediate exercise of the functions of a county. The county was "to act in conjunction with Niagara County" until it contained "five hundred taxable inhabitants qualified to vote for Member of Assembly," to be ascertained and certified by the supervisors of the county.

The extension to the county of the jurisdiction of the court of common pleas and also general sessions of the peace was provided for, and three of the former and two of the latter were designated for each year at fixed dates, each term to begin on Tuesday and to continue in session until Saturday of the same week if the business justified it.

The Governor was authorized to appoint three commissioners "to explore" the county and "designate and fix the site for a courthouse and jail . . . . within one year from the passing of this act." The supervisors of the county after its organization were directed to raise by tax "a sum not exceeding fifteen hundred dollars" for the building of a courthouse and jail and were to cause the same to be erected by contract. Chautauqua County and also Niagara County, now comprising the counties of Erie and Niagara were organized by the legislative act already mentioned. The Holland Land Company was directed to build within three years a courthouse and jail at New Amsterdam, now the city of Buffalo. Until the completion of these buildings the legal business of the three counties was to be transacted at Batavia, in Genesee County, and the conveyances were recorded in the clerk's office of that county, and thereafter in the county of Niagara until the organization of each county was fulfilled. The act erected the town of Olean, in the county of Cattaraugus, as the only township, and provided for the first town meeting at the dwelling house of Joseph McClure, who resided where the village of Franklinville is now located. The impetus thus early given to political activity in that village apparently has suffered no abatement during the first century of the county's history.

While the organization of the county was provided for by this act, it remained in a chrysalis condition for some time. It was a county on paper. The Holland Land Company was advertising for settlers in this large territory. With distinct counties organized by legislative fiat it was expected that the inducements to the seekers of homes would be increased, and that was apparently the motive for the separation of this large tract of land from the county of Genesee and the division of it into three separate bodies politic. The plan fulfilled expectations. The population of all three counties increased from the time of this enactment.

An act of the Legislature was adopted June 16, 1812, cutting off from the north part of the town of Olean another township named Ischua, and the dividing line was coincident with the present northerly boundary line of the towns of Ischua, Humphrey, Great Valley, Little Valley, Napoli, and Conewango, so that by the partition the two towns were as nearly of equal size as was practicable. The place of holding town meetings for the two towns was designated in this act,



(Photo Courtesy of John C. Krieger Collection)

TOLL BRIDGE OVER THE ALLEGHENY RIVER, SALAMANCA, ABOUT 1880, SET UP BY AN ENTERPRISING CITIZEN NAMED TOWNSEND

and in the town of Ischua the hand of the machine was again at the crank, for the residence of Joseph McClure was selected as the rendezvous of this political gathering.

The people of the county had found it laborious and inconvenient to attend court in Genesee County. There was the mere semblance of a road to Batavia. One of the traveled routes of the west bound settlers from central New York was through Allegany County to reach the Allegheny River, and rough roads were therefore cut through the wilderness. The act last referred to annexed Cattaraugus County to the county of Allegany "for county purposes." The inhabitants of

our county were exempted "from serving as jurors and constables in courts of record"; and also from "attending regimental and battalion training" until the organization of the county conformably to the act incorporating it.

The Legislature on April 13, 1814, erected a new town called Perry, from the commodore who had recently won the magnificent victory over the British on the nearby waters of Lake Erie; and the continuance of the name is retained in Perrysburg. Perry was temporarily annexed to the county of Niagara, and its easterly boundary was the east boundary line of the seventh range of townships of the Holland Land Company's survey. It comprised the westerly half of the county and its easterly boundary corresponded with the easterly line of the present towns of Red House, Salamanca, Little Valley, Mansfield, and including the greater part of East Otto and a corner of Ashford.

The commissioners provided for in the act, to locate the county site, were appointed by the Governor, and selected the place where the present flourishing village of Ellicottville is now located, and "erected a large ironwood post" to designate the precise spot. There were no inhabitants in the vicinity of the chosen site and the commissioners aimed to select the geographical center of the county for the establishment of its capital. There were no connecting roads extending over the county and the commissioners forecast the county's growth, believing that the point selected would in time be most accessible to the people considered in their entirety. Just when this location was made is not certain. At the first session of the board of supervisors in 1818, the account of Mr. Sutherland, one of the commissioners was audited, and it included an interest item of $12.90, which indicates that the site was fixed shortly after the passage of the original act incorporating the county.

It will be borne in mind that the act incorporating the county provided that it should not exercise any of the functions of a distinct organization until the supervisors of the county had certified that there were at least five hundred taxable inhabitants of the county qualified to vote for Member of Assembly. I am not able to find that this requirement was ever complied with. The "Assembly Journal" of March 15, 1817 (p. 548), shows that Mr. Rochester, the chairman of the Select Committee, "to whom was referred the several petitions of the inhabitants of the County of Cattaraugus, praying for the organization of said county, reported—That the population of said county now amounts to such a number, that in the opinion of the com-

mittee, it would be unjust and unreasonable longer to subject them to the inconvenience and expense of transacting and attending to their judicial business at the courts of Allegany and Niagara counties. An immediate organization appears to be almost unanimously desired by the inhabitants. No remonstrance against it has been laid before the legislature."

It seems that even at that early date there was much controversy over the location of the county site, although the commissioners selected by the Governor had definitely fixed it at Ellicottville. The act, pursuant to the report, was passed March 28, 1817, and is entitled: "An act organizing the County of Cattaraugus." The provisions of the original act pertaining to the holdings of the courts were reënacted and the Legislature evidently did not wish to participate in the county site quarrel and hence directed that the courts of common pleas and general sessions of the peace should "be holden at some convenient place from time to time to be appointed for that purpose by the judges for the time being"; and the act further provided that no circuit court or court of oyer and terminer should be held in the county "until the same shall in the opinion of the Justices of the Supreme Court become necessary."

From this date the bud was opened, and the swaddling clothes were discarded, and the county began to exercise the functions originally contemplated. To the struggling settlers who were heaving down the forests, and gathering the scant products of their imperfect tillage, the civil institution of their local body politic was a boon and an inspiration. The spirit of independence, the fruitage of the war of the Revolution, had burned into these rugged patriots, and individual rights were a vitalizing influence in the narrow range of their lives. Their county was an accomplished fact. Because of it the step of the toiler was more springy as he left his log cabin in the morning to fit his land for the crops, and his personal importance as a unit in the composite Nation became significant. There is no greater incentive to manhood than the investiture of political sovereignty in the individual. The world march of progress has been in harmony with the advance of personal liberty. To fulfill the destiny of the Republic the electors must be intelligent, comprehending the issues presented, and above all, upright and conscientious and animated by the loyalty which impelled the early patriots to free the colonies from Great Britain and unite them into one supreme central nation. May the sons of Cattaraugus ever cherish their love of country and be faithful to their exalted citizenship.

The court of common pleas was promptly organized and its first term was held in July, 1817, at the residence of William Baker in Olean. Timothy Porter was the first judge, and James Brooks, Francis Green, Ashbel Freeman and William Price the associate judges. The first term held at Ellicottville was in 1819 at the house of Baker Leonard, which was the only building in the vicinity, except



(Photo courtesy of John C. Krieger Collection)

CARROLLTON ABOUT 1905

the office of the Holland Land Company. Judge Porter resigned in 1819. This court transacted to a large extent the litigated business of the county. It consisted of five judges and three were necessary to constitute a quorum. It had general civil jurisdiction of causes of action originating in the county. Its members after Porter were not lawyers, but were men of sterling judgment.

Benjamin Chamberlain was for a time associate judge and from 1833 to the abolition of the court in 1847, was first judge. Judge Ten Broeck served for fourteen years; Judge Alson Leavenworth for

twelve years, five as first judge. In running over the list of men who were prominent in the thirty years of the court's existence in the county, I find many of them were judges of this court. There were few law books used. Precedents were not of much consequence. The broad elementary principles of the law deduced from the simple maxims which should regulate human conduct in every phase of life controlled these conscientious men in the disposition of the cases submitted to them. The record discloses that in the thirty years over sixteen hundred cases were disposed of, either by actual trial, by judgment for default, or by settlement after issue was joined. The amount of the business was remarkable, and yet there were very few appeals. As a rule the amounts involved were small and the litigants content to abide by the verdict or decision rendered. There was no day calendar. Each case was expected to be ready when called. Business was dispatched rapidly. These unlettered judges were there for results and commenced early in the morning and carried their work well into the evening, and the greatest deference was always manifested to these plain men. Judicial dignity does not depend on wigs or gowns. Men in public life or judicial life, entitled to the confidence of their fellows, will always be accorded respect. It is bestowed instinctively.

The county court succeeded the common pleas in 1847, although with more limited jurisdiction. Judge Lamb, who had been one of the associate judges, was the first county judge, and his successors have been very able men. My acquaintance with these judges includes Woodbury, Bolles, Spring, Henderson, Scott, Vreeland, Kruse and Thrasher, the present able incumbent of that position; and every one of them possessed the ability and fitness to fill worthily any judicial position in the State.

The court of common pleas and the county court have always been composed of men closely identified with the county's history, of men long residing within its borders, active participants in its political contests, and in close touch with its people. The two courts have been distinctively the county courts. In order to maintain the high reputation thus far achieved it will be essential for the electors in the future to exercise the wise discretion in the selection of the county judges which has long prevailed to the credit of its people.

The training school of the lawyers of the county from its organization until a very recent period was not the law schools, but the justices courts. The student in the office of an admitted practitioner commenced the trial of cases in that court with his clerkship. In that

way he early in his career commenced to earn money, and what was of far more importance acquired the ability to try causes by actual practice, and that is the only method by which the knowledge can be gained. The court was held in the dwelling house of the magistrate, in a bar-room, grocery, or whatever was most convenient. The parties generally lived in the town of the trial, and the inhabitants laid aside their work and attended the lawsuit. The respective counsel were on trial from the time the jury were impaneled until the verdict was rendered. The struggle was to win in that forum. Every town had its pettifogger—a shrewd, fertile, adroit practitioner who knew how to marshal the facts and comprehend the pivotal point in the case. This battlefield produced strong, resolute, alert trial lawyers, and the bar of our county from an early period has been famous for the trial ability of its members. When I began the practice of law in the fall of 1875, there were engaged in active practice at the bar, not mentioning those now living, Judge Henderson, Judge Woodbury, Judge Scott, Judge Vreeland, Charles S. Cary, James D. McVey, George M. Rider, Hiram P. Herrick, James H. Waring, William Manley, Merril T. Jenkins, Joseph and Benjamin Congdon, Joseph R. Jewell, Arunah Ward, and James G. Johnson—a galaxy of able lawyers who would stand the test with the bar of any county.

Since I have been on the bench of the Supreme Court my acquaintance with the lawyers of the State has been somewhat widely extended. In the capacity to prepare the case for trial carefully, to present the facts to the jury in the most effective array and to understand the real core of the lawsuit, I have found no lawyers who surpass those of the county of my birth.

Early in the history of the county there was much embarrassment for lack of a market, and groceries and the necessaries of life were very high because they had to be brought overland from Buffalo, or transported up the Allegheny River, which was a difficult undertaking. In 1825 the Erie Canal was completed. After that date the merchants of Cattaraugus County generally purchased their goods in New York City and that was to a considerable degree the market for the people of the county.

There was early projected two competing lines of canal; one from Batavia through the Ischua Valley to Olean, and the other from Rochester along the Genesee River to the same terminus. The projectors of the Genesee Valley Canal possessed the greater influence, and that was completed in 1856 to Olean and later extended to Mill

Grove in the town of Portville. This canal was in operation for several years.

In 1851 the Erie Railroad was completed, and it was a matter of great rejoicing to the people of the county. So important was the project that the first regular train which passed through contained as guests President Fillmore and the members of his Cabinet, of which Daniel Webster was the head, and also the Governor of the State. Speeches were made all along the route and the people gathered from all over the county at the stations most accessible to them.

The home seekers who attacked the virgin forests of this county were hardy, energetic men. The weaklings succumbed to the strenuous life with its privations and hardships. It was another instance of the survival of the fittest. These men lacked the learning and culture of the schools, yet they possessed great mental endowment and were well equipped for the pioneering which was their lot. They were intuitively dignified and gracious of deportment, and naturally drifted into the political affairs of the county and the Congressional or Senatorial District. The leaders were active in the board of supervisors, many were in the State Legislature, and some were in the national House of Representatives. It might be inferred that the lack of good roads and of railroads would prevent communication and acquaintanceship. Apparently not. They were not averse to traveling by day or night. The sessions of the court were attended from the first day by the litigants, witnesses, jurors and the lawyers of the county. The Holland Land office called men to the county site; the sessions of the board of supervisors afforded another opportunity for these men to measure the calibre of each other and promote acquaintanceship. Each man between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years was amenable to military duty, and the annual general trainings and officers' and company drills were great events in the early life of these stalwart men. Lieutenants, captains and colonels and even generals, were nearly as frequent as in Kentucky during the palmy ante-Civil War days.

James McGlashan, of Rutledge, a supervisor and member of Assembly, attained the rank of major-general; and Daniel Huntley, of Ellicottville, and Jehial Hill, of Zoar, were brigadiers. There were originally two regiments, the 115th and the 198th, and they were at one time a part of the 47th Brigade, and afterwards of the 54th. They were carried along from 1818 for thirty years and the political maneuvering for commissions occupied more attention than the military evolutions. Shortly before the War of the Rebellion under a

new régime the 64th Regiment was equipped and was the forerunner of the famous 64th so creditable to the county during the war period.

The glamour of military life is attractive and inspiring in peace as well as in war, and the martial spirit of the boys in Cattaraugus was developed by witnessing the pomp and tinsel of these military pageants. The men were brought in touch with each other and the leaders in civil life are found to have carried their leadership into the military organizations. The women with the inseparable lunch baskets containing an abundance of ginger bread, fired the hearts of husband, son, brother or sweetheart and participated in the revelry of these meetings, all too infrequent in the severe tension of their restricted lives.

North of the pine regions, many of the conspicuous men were cattle buyers and in their trips about the county in the prosecution of that business extended their intercourse among its citizens. The men of mark were not therefore unknown to their fellows the county over. Difficulties of intercommunication have always been surmounted and the rugged farmer of Cattaraugus was no exception to this rule.

It is very difficult to refer to individuals in an address of this kind. In going over the early records I have learned to revere and honor these men who while fighting the battle of life with so much persistence and in circumstances so adverse found time to participate in public affairs to the credit of themselves and their fellowmen. With all their privations they were not without social life. The inhabitants of any locality, however sparsely settled it may be, always manage to derive means for the gratification of the social spirit. The country dance, the husking bee, even the barn raising enabled them to give vent to the exuberance and hilarity of feeling all the more enjoyable and vigorous because pent up the greater part of the year. The genuine enjoyment of social life is not apt to be found in the stilted dress parade assemblies of the metropolis. The old country dance with its swift swirl and vim and clatter surpassed in exuberance of feeling the inauguration ball.

Judge Porter, of Olean, the first judge, was district attorney in 1819, and again in 1824, was Presidential Elector the same year, State Senator in 1823 and again from 1828 to 1831 (and the district in those years embraced several counties), and the first member of Congress elected from the county in 1825 to 1827, and in 1839 and 1840, shortly before his death, a member of Assembly. He was one of the leading citizens, and for more than twenty years retained his

prestige in the county, although his active public life was crowded into less than fifteen years.

The next member of Congress in the county was Staley N. Clarke, of Ellicottville, the agent and representative of the Holland Land Company. Fortunate were the purchasers of land that their dealings were with such a conscientious and forebearing gentleman. He was faithful to his trust, and yet no payment was forced where the vendee manifested a willingness to meet his obligations at some time. If crops failed and interest or the payments on the contract could not be made as they matured, this considerate representative extended the time and to the credit of the struggling owners be it said very seldom was this confidence abused. Asher Tyler, of Ellicottville, was the Congressman from the district immediately succeeding Clarke. Frederick S. Martin, of Olean, one of the noted men of his day, was elected in 1850, serving one term. He was also in the Assembly and State Senate and four times supervisor of the town of Olean.

Thereafter in the allotment of representatives in Congress, our county seems to have yielded to the superior political skill of our brethren in Chautauqua County until 1864; during that time Reuben E. Fenton, afterward Governor and United States Senator, represented the district for ten years. In the fall of 1864 Dr. Van Aernam was elected to Congress, was reëlected in 1866 and served again for four years from 1879 to 1883.

Dr. Van Aernam was a physician and surgeon of rare ability. He had gone out with the 164th Regiment as its surgeon and was promoted to brigade surgeon and finally was one of the operating staff of the 20th Corps. He never cultivated the arts of political oratory and avoided personal participation in public display of any kind. Few equalled him in the capacity to win the confidence of men. He acquired to a remarkable degree the affection of his regimental comrades and that devotion was reciprocated with a loyalty which remained undiminished during years of prostrating illness.

Dr. Van Aernam was in Congress during the tremendous controversies arising from the Civil War period, and became the intimate of the leaders of his party—Henry Wilson, Bingham, Shallabarger, Conkling, and others. He was for three and one-half years Commissioner of Pensions during President Grant's first administration. He was a capable political organizer, accepted victory without undue elation and defeat without any personal rancor to his opponents, and retained his leadership for many years.

Henry Van Aernam possessed great ability, was high-minded, sympathetic, generous, a splendid type of the best product of our county's magnificent human fruitage. William G. Laidlaw, of Ellicottville, known of all men, women and children in the county, was the representative in Congress from 1887 to 1891.

In 1899 the present (1908) incumbent was elected, succeeding Judge Hooker, of Chautauqua County. Mr. Vreeland has ably and zealously represented his constituents. At the last session, although not on the banking committee he presented a proposed emergency currency bill, which was endorsed by his colleagues, and in conference with a like committee of the Senate it was the basis of an important enactment which attracted wide attention, and he was selected as chairman of the Committee of the House to act in conjunction with a similar committee from the Senate to investigate the financial conditions of the Nation, and recommend needful legislation. On a recent trip West I learned that Mr. Vreeland's prominence in the currency legislation had extended his reputation across the continent. When the first cantos of "Childe Harold" were published, Byron, it is said awakened one morning to find that he was famous. Mr. Vreeland possessed the rare ability to appreciate the necessity of a Congressional act to prevent financial panics and at once paved the way for the needed remedy. The people of this Nation admire men who rise to an important emergency as did our representative. We want public men who do things, and as Theodore Roosevelt fills to the fullest measure this want he has won the respect and love of his countrymen.

The men of a county, state or nation make its history, and did time permit, it would be a pleasure to mention all those who have figured conspicuously in making a creditable reputation for the county whose one hundredth anniversary we are today commemorating.

Supervisors were elected as early as 1809, but there is no record of their meeting until 1818, when they convened in Ellicottville. Four towns were represented, Great Valley, Ischua, Olean, and Perry; and James Greene, Thomas Morris, Seymour Bouton, and Silas Nash composed the board. Mr. Greene was elected president, which was the title of the presiding officer until 1837, and Joseph McClure clerk. Mr. Nash had the unique distinction of representing three different towns during the nine terms he served on the board.

Senator Norman M. Allen has been a member of the board thirty-six years, twenty-nine of which he was chairman; exceeding in length of service both as chairman and supervisor, that of any other member in the county and, I think, in the State. George A. S. Crooker was

on the board twenty-nine terms and chairman nearly as long. Orris Marsh represented Napoli twenty-three years, and Frederick Carpenter of Ischua and Hinsdale was a member of the board for nineteen years.

The board of supervisors of a county as its local legislative body is made up of its leading men. The list published in the "Journal" of 1890 indicates that the men whose names were household words



MAIN STREET, RANDOLPH, 1893

served on the board. Many a man who achieved distinction in more extended fields first spread his political wings in representing his town as its supervisor. There is no better opportunity for a young man of good parts and tact to make political capital than in this body. If, however, he lacks the capacity to rub against his fellowmen agreeably he better keep aloof from the board, for the supervisors are apt to take his measure and the estimate stays by them.

For a few years after the incorporation of the county in 1808 the population increased very slowly. In 1810 it contained 458 white inhab-

itants, and in 1814 only 537. From then on it increased very rapidly. In 1820 the population was 4,090; in 1830, 15,726; in 1840, 30,130; in 1850, 38,950; and in 1860, 42,819. In later years there has been no such increase. In 1890 our population all told was 60,836. In 1900, 65,643; and in 1905, 66,196. The assessed valuation of the county in 1820 was $1,679,633, and in 1908 nearly $27,000,000.

The Holland Land Company was very lenient with the purchasers of its real estate, and that beneficent policy attracted settlers. After the War of 1812 and during the administrations of Monroe, John Quincy Adams and Jackson, money was plentiful, an era of peace prevailed, great attention was given to the development of the country and times were generally good, all of which contributed to the settlement and growth of the county.

The district school was generally the beginning and the end of curriculum training. These schools were early established and the larger boys attended only during the winter term. Soon the district school libraries were instituted and afforded excellent reading matter for the people of the district. The "New York Tribune" was generally taken by the Whigs, and was a powerful instrumentality in the forming of public opinion. The slavery agitation was a burning theme in politics and the aggressive personality of Horace Greeley was injected into discussions on this subject. The Whigs, and later the Republicans, accepted without question any proposition stated in the "New York Tribune," and it was read seriatim, advertisements and all.

Personal influence is always a controlling factor in shaping the plastic minds of the young in a definite direction. In a neighborhood comprising two school districts in East Otto, Otto, and Mansfield there lived seventy to eighty years ago several boys who ripened into manhood as follows: Governor Gibbs, Dr. Van Aernam, Addison G. Rice, Senator Benjamin F. Rice, Milton Rice, a prominent lawyer, Judge Romanzo Bunn, Judge Schott, Surrogate Manley, Judge David J. Nye, Judge Orr Brown, and Charles C. Willson, eminent as a lawyer. These boys residing in an isolated locality did not attain eminence by accident. There must have been some dominating influence to stir up the ambition and awaken the spirit in them in order to produce the remarkable outcome which I have indicated. I have heard Dr. Van Aernam say that the smouldering fires in these young men were set aflame by Elijah A. Rice. He came to East Otto about 1823, was a farmer, surveyor, superintendent of schools and Assemblyman; a student of good literature, earnest, magnetic, forceful, of discriminating mind, of unblemished reputation, and, above everything else,

attractive to the boys in his vicinity. He moulded their youthful minds and infused them with the inspiring principle that the road to success was open to every boy with the energy to climb it. The rich harvest was the crop of noble men I have mentioned. "The soil out of which such men as he are made is good to be born on, good to live on, good to die for and to be buried in."

Until a comparatively recent period the men of the county made little impression in either of the leading political parties of the State. Of late years they have achieved their aliquot share of the emoluments and fame in the broader field. Four years ago the county reached its climax in political importance when Frank W. Higgins was elected Governor. Governor Higgins was intimately known by our people; and as Senator and Lieutenant-Governor had long been in public life, through their preferment. When the future historian gathers together the chronicles of the administration of Governor Higgins they will show a clean, able, conservative management of public affairs. There was no sham, no graft, no display in that administration. Governor Higgins was a plain man, familiar with the pecuniary needs of the State and was discreet and economical in approving the expenditure of the public money. We are proud of his record, proud of his manliness, proud of his integrity, and proud of him as one of the sons of Cattaraugus.

The names of other men of our county are found on the State civil list, who are acting honorably their part. The successors of those who rafted logs down the Allegheny River and cleared their lands for tillage, have a right on this anniversary year to felicitate themselves with the belief that some of the self-reliance, tact and energy of the early settlers has been transmitted to them.

We rejoice at the progress of the first century of our county's growth. We have met today with a glow of pride to honor the men and women who accomplished its advancement. We also have duties to perform. We are citizens of a great Nation, a great State and a great county. The obligations of that exalted citizenship are many, and we must perform them loyally or be faithless to the trust committed to us.

On this centennial memorial year of our county's birth, as its splendid achievements roll before us, and as we contemplate its greatness today, we each may be justified in rejoicing with the psalmist:

"The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage."

Alfred Spring died October 22, 1912, while a Justice of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department, Supreme Court of the State of New

York. He was born February 19, 1851, at Franklinville, and lived there all his life. He studied law with his father who was at one time county judge, and was admitted to the bar in October, 1875. In 1880 he was elected surrogate of Cattaraugus County; held that office for twelve years; in January, 1895, was appointed to fill a vacancy on the bench of the Supreme Court; in the fall of that year was elected for a full term and reëlected in 1909. He was assigned to the Appellate Division by Governor Roosevelt in 1899. He had a degree of Doctor of Laws from the University of Michigan, and wrote many papers on legal and historical subjects. No one was better fitted by knowledge or experience to write such a history.—CHARLES E. CONGDON.

Political Leaders—As a footnote to the splendid article by the Hon. Alfred Spring, LL. D., we compile, almost verbatim, the following from the "Gowanda News," of March 5, 1925. Although its author is unknown to the writer, it is evident that he was thoroughly familiar with the political annals of Cattaraugus County, particularly as regards personalities. He went back to the eighteen-eighties when the outstanding political figure in the county was Norman M. Allen, of Dayton. After six years' service as State Senator, in 1880, this political leader missed by only a single vote the honor of representing the Republican party as the nominee for the Vice-Presidency of the United States, losing to Chester A. Arthur. As is a well-known record of history, Mr. Arthur succeeded to the Presidency upon the assassination of James A. Garfield, and by a very small margin southwestern New York lost its only opportunity to be represented in the White House.

Senator Norman M. Allen was also chairman, for many years, of the board of supervisors of Cattaraugus County, of which N. I. Norton of Hinsdale, Dr. Henry Van Aernam of Franklinville, William G. Laidlaw, Judge Scott, and George M. Rider of Ellicottville, were fellow members.

There were also numerous men associated with the aforementioned men in the political affairs of our country with their factions and individual ambitions the same as today, among them such men as Dr. Poole, of Otto; Colonel E. A. Nash, Stephen C. Green, John F. Mosher, G. L. Mosher, of Little Valley; Erastus C. Ingersoll and Charles Terry, Randolph; M. V. Benson, East Randolph; Henry Morrison and Benjamin Brown, of South Valley; J. M. Congdon, Oliver Vreeland, J. S. Whipple, Adison Vreeland, and E. B. Vreeland, of Salamanca; Henry Holcomb, of Portville; N. V. V. Franchot, Governor Frank W. Higgins and James H. Waring, of Olean; W. E. Wheeler, of Portville; George Spring, of Franklinville; Henry S.

Merrill, of Farmersville; George Stoneman, of Machias; Burton B. Lewis, of Freedom; G. A. Matteson, East Otto; Daniel B. Allen, Otto; Supreme Court Judge George W. Cole, Salamanca; Albert T. Fancher, Leon; Walter W. Welch, Gowanda; Robert E. Congdon, Gowanda; W. S. Thrasher, Dayton; John J. Volk, Dayton; Marc D. Johnson, Randolph; W. H. Eldredge, Leon; Frank M. Merrill, Little Valley; Judge Albert A. Bird, Charles Brock, Cattaraugus; W. H. Bowen, Frank Annis, Little Valley; John B. Reeves, Steamburg; Bret L. Andrews, Dr. Edward Bolard, Charles Congdon, A. Edward Krieger, Judge Orla E. Black, Salamanca; Raymond T. Mallery, Dr. Ralph F. Knight, Elmer Miller, Smith, Supervisor, Judge George A. Larkin, M. G. Fitzpatrick, Olean; Nicholas Trinkle, Portville; Dr. Myron E. Fisher, Delevan; E. J. Cheney, Freedom; Dr. Harmon Ashley, Machias; Victor Lynde, Delevan; DeHart Ames, Franklinville, formerly State Senator, former secretary to the Allegany Park Commission; A. M. Laidlaw, Allen Ames, Ellicottville; Leigh G. Kirkland, Randolph, present State Senator, and James W. Watson, present State Assemblyman.

E. B. Vreeland's knowledge of banking produced the "Vreeland Bill" in Congress, which was the first step toward a safe money system in the United States.

Albert T. Fancher, of Salamanca, is probably the best known of the old time and present Republicans, having been State Committeeman for many years and has done a great deal for the benefit of Cattaraugus County. The wonderful interest in getting the Allegany State Park started and his continued interest will be one of his monuments.

N. V. V. Franchot, of Olean, was a very able Republican worker until his extensive oil and gas business took up most of his time. He was instrumental in the nomination and election of former Governor Frank W. Higgins, of Olean, who was the only Governor Cattaraugus County ever had.

In the Democratic party probably the most talked of man a half century and more ago was Hon. Charles S. Cary, of Olean, who at that time was the confidential adviser and personal friend of Grover Cleveland, and at one time served in the Legislature of the State of New York from this county.

Other Democratic leaders at that time were Rodney R. Crowley, Judge Henderson of Randolph, Hudson Ansley of Salamanca, James McMahon of Ellicottville, Jonas K. Button of Franklinville.

The next generation includes James Devine of Humphrey, Thomas H. Dowd of Salamanca, S. S. Long of East Otto, Jonas K. Button, Jr. of Franklinville, Peter C. Foley of Olean, Clair Willard of Allegany, Fred Forness of Allegany, John C. Dempsey of Olean, Gene Reed of Little Valley, John Ellis of Ellicottville, Fay P. Greene of Franklinville.

CHAPTER XXXIX

Military History Prior to 1865

By Lieutenant-Colonel A. Edward Krieger, LL. B.

All the articles that I have read, purporting to deal with the military history of Cattaraugus County, have begun with some one of the white men's wars. These all have taken place at a considerable distance from Cattaraugus County itself, and the great battlefields where Cattaraugus citizens fought are hundreds or thousands of miles away. I deem it proper and pertinent to refer in this article to those historical and legendary exploits of the warriors, white and red, who fought here before Major Adam Hoops founded the first white settlement in the county at Olean Point in 1804.

Until the middle of the seventeenth century the lands between the Genesee River and Lake Erie were inhabited by the warlike Eries. Records left by the Jesuit Fathers tell of the bloody and ferocious war between them and their neighbors, the Senecas, who kept the western door of the Long House. In 1655 a decisive battle was fought at what was afterward the Caneadea Reservation in the present county of Allegany. The Seneca chieftain did not commit all of his forces in the initial engagement, but held out a reserve of a thousand warriors. This reserve was committed to the fight at the decisive moment and the Senecas followed up their advantage thus gained by an indiscriminate slaughter of the Eries, including non-combatants. Those who were able to get away from the battlefield retreated westward and southwestward along the O-hee-yo (Allegheny), but the relentless Senecas continued their pursuit until the nation was nearly exterminated.

After the expulsion of the Eries the Senecas continued to occupy the present Cattaraugus County, but in very few numbers, until the time of the American Revolution. The Seneca warriors formed the principal fighting elements of the marauding bands which perpetrated

the Wyoming and Cherry Valley massacres. Largely in retribution for these depredations the Sullivan-Clinton Expedition was sent into central and western New York to spread a similar form of death and destruction among the Indian inhabitants. This expedition did not reach Cattaraugus County, but it affected its history in two ways. The destruction of the villages of the Senecas east of the Genesee River drove many of the inhabitants westward so that they settled within



(Courtesy of Olean Chamber of Commerce)

OLEAN

North Union Street looking north from Main Street after the 1916 flood had receded.

the present confines of our county. The other way in which we were affected was by an expedition which was sent out from Fort Pitt to ascend the valley of the Allegheny River and eventually make contact with Sullivan. This force, under the command of Colonel Daniel Brodhead, consisting of 605 white soldiers, a few of whom were regulars, but most of whom volunteered for this expedition only, left Fort Pitt August 11, 1779, accompanied by two hundred pack horses and a party of Delaware scouts. En route they destroyed and burned

several Indian villages, particularly a very large village at "Cornplanter Town," the present site of the Cornplanter Reservation just over the line in Pennsylvania, and other villages at approximately the present sites of Wolf Run and Red House. There is no reason to suppose that Colonel Brodhead obeyed any more strictly the rules of civilized warfare than did Joseph Brant or Walter Butler. In his own report of the expedition he carefully stated that all of the villages which he burned were deserted, but the Indians have claimed that Cornplanter Town was occupied by women, children and old men; that a white army attacked the place while the warriors were all away and that the inhabitants were compelled to flee to the hills for safety. It is quite likely that, even in a modern war, the inhabitants would not stand around until the enemy approached if they could possibly get out of his reach.

Tradition among the Indians is to the effect that Brodhead's party was met by a large number of Seneca warriors at about the mouth of Bucktooth Run, and a battle of some seriousness took place there. By that time Brodhead was getting a long way from his base of supplies, the topography was unfavorable for further advance and the weather may have become inclement. These are doubtless the real reasons why the project was abandoned. At any rate it seems that the vicinity of Salamanca was the nearest he ever got to accomplishing his mission of joining forces with Sullivan.

After the Revolution many of its veterans settled in Cattaraugus County. Among the more famous of these were Major Hoops, abovementioned, who had been an aide to General Washington, and Benjamin Chambers (or Chamberlin), whose son of the same name became one of the county's famous citizens. He, like several others of the veterans, had fought at Bunker Hill, Quebec and Saratoga, and he had lost an eye at the battle of Stony Point. No phase of the Revolution touched the borders of the present Cattaraugus County except the Brodhead expedition.

At the outbreak of the War of 1812 the population of all of the Holland Purchase was under twenty-five thousand. Most of the people lived in the few established villages and on the road between Batavia and Buffalo. Here and there were a few veterans of the Revolution, but most of the militia had had no real military experience whatever. A semi-annual muster had been held, but there was nothing that in any way approached military discipline or training. In spite of this a force of three thousand men, two thousand two hundred of whom were nothing more than raw recruits, had been assembled at

the site of Lewiston and Fort Niagara by the twelfth of October, and next day fought the battle of Queenstown. Most of the militia had come from the twenty-five thousand settled on the Holland Purchase and, since there were a few scattered settlements in Cattaraugus County, it must have furnished some of them.

The military record of the War of 1812 is not a glorious one, but considered in all its aspects, is not one of which we ought to be ashamed. The number of men who participated, the fact that all the frontier villages along the Niagara were burned by the British, the success of the Indian agent, Erastus Granger, in keeping the Senecas neutral are all worth mention. Much of the action in the early part of this war took place within a hundred miles of Cattaraugus County.

After nearly two years of border warfare the sole accomplishment of the American forces was the occupation of the village of Newark, now Niagara-on-the-Lake, and the small fort known as Fort George. In evacuating the village, Brigadier-General M'Clure, commanding the militia, wantonly set fire thereto and withdrew to Fort Niagara across the river. This injudicious act provided the British with the pretext for burning Buffalo, Black Rock and Lewiston when they subsequently invaded western New York. The American settlers along the frontier fled eastward to the Genesee River, and some of them to the hills of Cattaraugus, where they doubtless remained.

About September 1, 1814, the militia of all the counties west of the Genesee River was called out en masse and ordered to march to Buffalo. Regular troops consisting of not more than a thousand men were then besieged at Fort Erie. The militia crossed the river to relieve the besieged garrison. They were without discipline and fought hand to hand as any mob, but succeeded insofar that the troops at Fort Erie were enabled to effect a withdrawal to the American side of the river, when the militia disbanded and each man returned home. This constituted the entire military service of many of the veterans of the War of 1812.

Cattaraugus County contributed about a dozen men to the Mexican War. Notable among these were Major Oscar F. Winship, the first cadet appointed to the Military Academy from this county, who during that war was an officer of the regular army and distinguished himself at Palo Alto and Resaca, later serving on the General Staff, and Sergeant, later Captain, William Fancher, who served throughout the Mexican War, and died of disease contracted during the Civil War.

At this point some explanation should be made of the organization, or lack of it, of the militia. Every white male citizen between the ages of eighteen and forty-five was a member and unless excused from service was obliged to arm and equip himself. Officers met and drilled once a year and an annual regimental muster was held, or supposed to be, but consisted usually of nothing more than a grand celebration. The first one was held at Fish Hill, in the town of Mansfield, in 1827. This was the 198th Regiment of the 25th Division, and was organized, on paper, from the western half of the county; the 173d Regiment was recruited from the eastern half. There was a general reorganization of military districts in 1830. Cattaraugus County with a few towns in Erie and Wyoming, comprised the district of the 54th Brigade, which consisted of seven regiments, six of which had their headquarters respectively at Gowanda, Rutledge, Ellicottville, Franklinville, Olean, and Yorkshire.

The annual muster, which had started out to be a welcome diversion from the drab routine of farm and backwoods life, to quote an earlier historian, "finally became an onerous burden . . . . the almost utter uselessness of these crude military organizations on a real battlefield caused considerable discussion." The last general training under the old law took place in the county in 1846. The only militia organization in the county which really accomplished anything prior to the Civil War was the 64th Regiment which was reorganized in 1853, under the command of Colonel Thomas J. Parker. This regiment became the foundation of the 64th New York Volunteer Infantry, one of the distinguished organizations of the Northern Army, and of which more will be said later.

The famous exploit, celebrated in song and story, of the old militia was the so-called "Dutch Hill War," to which considerable space has been given in previous county histories. It was not a military campaign in any sense; it would be called today a riot. No blood was shed but great excitement was caused. The militia was assembled at Ellicottville to assist the proprietors of certain lands in the town of Ischua in ejecting the occupants because of a dispute which had arisen between them in the matter of payments on their land contracts. Eventually the embattled settlers submitted to arrest and the one thousand one hundred militia who had assembled, returned to their homes.

Excitement ran high in Cattaraugus County, as elsewhere in the North, on the happening of the portentous events which heralded the

outbreak of the War Between the States. Almost immediately, ambitious and patriotic individuals sought to organize companies and regiments and otherwise participate in the approaching conflict. The first organization to get underway was the 37th New York Volunteer Infantry, two companies of which, composed largely of members of the 64th Militia Regiment, left on May 20, 1861, for its concentration point at Elmira. A few days later the entire regiment was mustered in at New York City. Among the men, all of whom were anxious to see active service, there was much dissatisfaction with the delays of organization and the alleged interference of politics. Doubtless their officers realized little more than they the necessity for some form of military training. They were actually in Virginia on July 21, 1861. Upstate politicians were apparently more influential at that time than those in the metropolitan district, because the worthy gentleman who commanded the regiment at its organization, was displaced and the two companies from Cattaraugus County were detached from the regiment and sent back to Washington to do guard duty. In the following year the Cattaraugus companies rejoined their regiment and participated in the battles of Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, Second Bull Run, Fredericksburg and many others, including the battle of Chancellorsville, in which the regiment suffered 283 casualties, and following which it was mustered out on June 22, 1863.

The 64th Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry was formed around the old militia regiment of the same number. It was known throughout the war as the "Cattaraugus Regiment." It is credited by one historian as having partaken in more engagements than any other regiment in the Northern Army. Six of the ten companies were from this county, two from Allegany, one from Tioga, and one from Tompkins. The regiment left Elmira on December 10, 1861, crossed the Potomac the following January, and took part in the Peninsular Campaign and the battles of Williamsburg and Fair Oaks. At Antietam it was reduced by casualties to 250 enlisted men and attached to the 61st Regiment. Its losses were heavy at Fredericksburg, and after the battle of Chancellorsville there were only 25 officers and 264 enlisted men numbered as effective. Its colonel, Daniel G. Bingham, was wounded at Gettysburg, and Captain Henry V. Fuller and Lieutenants Alfred H. Lewis, Willis G. Babcock, and Ira S. Thurber were killed. This famous regiment continued to participate in subsequent engagements. It distinguished itself at the Wilderness and Cold Harbor, but its history in the latter part of the war, aside from the interest of its origin and original membership, does not really concern Cat-

taraugus County very much, since by that time, due to expirations of enlistments, transfers and casualties very few men from here were then left on its rolls. The regiment was mustered out after Appomattox on July 14, 1865. The total enrollment of the 64th Regiment was 1,490, of whom over 20 per cent., or to be exact, 301 officers and men, were killed in action, or died subsequently of wounds or disease incurred in active service.



VIEW OF CATTARAUGUS, 1893

No record would be complete of Cattaraugus County Civil War history without especial mention of the 154th New York Volunteer Infantry, which was organized in 1862 in response to the President's call for 300,000 volunteers in the Senatorial District composed of Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties. This regiment, under Colonel, later Brigadier-General, Patrick H. Jones, left Jamestown for Washington in September of that year, where it became a part of the 11th Army Corps, commanded by Major-General Franz Sigel. The first exploit of this regiment was to burn and loot the small village of Hay-

market, Virginia, in retaliation for shots allegedly fired on the troops as they passed through the place. This was barely a month after leaving Jamestown. The men had had practically no military training and the state of discipline in the command must have been sad indeed. After several "disappointments" the regiment went into winter quarters on February 9, 1863, near Stafford Court House at "Captain John Manley," named after the Congressman from this district. In the spring of 1863, the 11th Corps was a part of Major-General



(Photo Courtesy of John C. Krieger Collection)

EASTERLY HALF OF THE VILLAGE OF SALAMANCA TAKEN FROM THE PATTERSON RAILROAD ON SOUTH MOUNTAIN, ABOUT 1902

Hooker's Army of the Potomac and, with other regiments, crossed the river at Kelly's Ford on April 28 to proceed to demonstrate its intolerance of secession by despoiling the Kelly plantation, store and dwelling so that a correspondent, with utmost glee, has stated that "what was a thriving farm and appurtenances in the morning was a desert waste in the evening. So much for secession!"

We must not too strongly condemn the brave and enthusiastic young soldiers of the 154th for conduct such as this. They were young; they were poorly disciplined; they were enthusiastic and they were hungry. They behaved no differently than almost any other regiment, North or South, would have done and did whenever the

opportunity offered. They were instigated by a very mild form of that insidious instrumentality now called "propaganda," which has been made such an effective moulder of popular feeling by the ingenuity of modern governments and their agents. They believed that all Secessionists were utterly abhorrent and that anything they might do to punish their infamous crime was warranted.

The 154th suffered heavy casualties at Chancellorsville, and at Gettysburg numbered only about three hundred. Many acts of valor were performed by individual officers and men. The regiment fought continuously through the Atlanta campaign and took part in General Sherman's march through Georgia and Carolina. It was mustered out at Bladensburg, Maryland, on June 11, 1865.

The 9th New York Cavalry contained two companies from Cattaraugus County. It was mustered into the service October 1, 1861 and, until mustered out in July, 1865, lost 619 officers and men out of a total enlistment of a little less than two thousand. It participated in many battles and skirmishes and lost its colonel, William Sackett, who was killed at Trevilian Station, Virginia, on June 11, 1864.

It would be impossible to recount the exploits and accomplishments of every organization in which Cattaraugus County men served during the Civil War. Some one has compiled a list of about two hundred different regiments. It is unfortunate likewise that more space cannot be given to the experiences of individuals, but a mere recounting of the names of the three thousand five hundred men who went from here to the battlefields of the Civil War would serve no worthwhile end. All we can do is to list those organizations which contained elements recruited wholly, or in part, in Cattaraugus County, and to leave the details to the respective histories of those organizations which are the 85th New York Volunteer Infantry, to which Cattaraugus County furnished two companies; the 105th New York Volunteer Infantry containing parts of two companies; the 5th New York Cavalry, two companies; the 15th New York Cavalry, one company, and the 14th New York Heavy Artillery, one company.

CHAPTER XL

Military History Since the Civil War

By Captain Dana L. Jewell, LL. B.

In a general way, the military experience of Cattaraugus County since Appomattox has been substantially that of other rural New York counties of similar population and situation. The same reaction to the tension of war; the same swing from extreme patriotism to extreme individualism and materialism; the same pseudo-prosperity, followed by a similar depression resulting from the inevitable deflation, followed the Civil War as have occurred during the past twenty years. Besides there remained the same dread and horror of war that has prevailed in England and France since the World War, which the people of this generation in America, far removed from the scene of conflict, free from the dread of being driven from their homes by a ruthless enemy, and with but a small fraction of the dead and maimed sustained by those countries, have realized only to a small degree. The same difficulties in reabsorbing the soldiers returning from the front and the same jealousies and fear that the soldiers might receive too much credit and too much advantage existed then, as in the recent past.

These influences rendered all thought and suggestion of war and of military service repugnant. The efforts of a fraction of the soldiers (mostly those who had seen the least fighting) to glorify themselves under the guise of patriotism then, as now, only aggravated the feeling.

Many real veterans, filled with resentment at the contrast between the attitude on their return and that on their departure, felt the need of organization. The Grand Army of the Republic, first organized in 1866, in Illinois, resulted. Posts of the organization were formed at Olean and at Allegany, but were discontinued for lack of interest. Annual reunions of veterans from Chautauqua and Cattaraugus coun-

ties were held alternately in each county; the first in 1868. For five or six years they were well attended and enjoyed apparently for their purely fraternal character.

The first Grand Army of the Republic post to survive was organized at Portville; H. G. Wessel Post, No. 85, January 20, 1879; and was followed by G. D. Bayard Post, No. 222, at Olean, and S. G. Noyes Post, No. 232, at Ellicottville. Posts continued to be formed as follows:

Fuller Post, No. 246, Little Valley, November 4, 1881.
D. E. Higgins Post, No. 297, Randolph, October 6, 1882.



VIEW OF ALLEGHENY RIVER, PORTVILLE, 1893

Fancher Post, No. 310, Leon, November 24, 1882.
Phillips Post, No. 239, Machias, January 18, 1883.
Rust Post, No. 357, Great Valley, March 30, 1883.
Darby Post, No. 359, Gowanda, March 27, 1883.
Ira Thurber Post, No. 584, Allegany, March 27, 1886.
Fair Oaks Post, No. 16, Ischua, July 6, 1887.
Brazilla Merrill Post, No. 637, Dayton, September 18, 1888.
Alanson Crosby Post, No. 508, Franklinville, April 6, 1891.
Spencer Whipple Post, South Valley, 1881.
Sherwood Post, No. 380, Salamanca, September 1, 1891.
W. T. Wickham Post, No. 655, Otto, April, 1892.
James Randolph Post, No. 307, Steamburg, 1882.

The total membership of these posts at no time exceeded seven or eight hundred, while Cattaraugus County had furnished nearly three thousand five hundred soldiers, who had served in about one hundred and eighty different organizations. Memorial services, at first irregular and informal, became a national holiday and grew in importance with the lapse of time after the events which occasioned them until the outbreak of the World War, which completed the cycle of military experience.

In the meantime another generation was growing up. Too young at the time of the war to sense its reactions, they had doubtless been impressed by the enthusiasm and glamour accompanying the departure of the soldiers for the front and by the increasing popularity of Memorial Day, with its patriotic oratory accompanied by the parades of the veterans. The Presidential campaign of 1884 was the first in which the candidates for President were not former generals. A Blaine and Logan escort was organized in Olean under the command of Captain Wyckoff, a former Michigan National Guardsman.

After the close of the Civil War the gregarious instincts of the young men in the larger communities had found an outlet in fighting fires as members of volunteer hose companies. As the communities became large enough to support regular fire departments these hose companies turned to military activity. The first military code of the State had been enacted in 1870, and by 1887 National Guard organizations had spread quite extensively over the State.

After the campaign ended the former escort, having acquired a taste for military drill, became an independent military company under the name of Olean Rifles. Uniforms were procured at the expense of the men augmented by contributions from interested citizens. Sharp's rifles, an obsolete army type, were supplied by George V. Forman, a local oil producer. Quarters were rented in the opera house building and drilling took place on the streets. The officers were Captain Wyckoff, First Lieutenant H. Fred Lee, and Second Lieutenant Wilbart H. Carringer. Later Captain Wyckoff left Olean.

The Citizens' Hose Company was at the time composed of socially prominent young men. It had, under the training of Culver G. Thyng as drill-master, acquired a wide reputation for fancy drill, and had taken many prizes at firemen's conventions.

Upon the departure of Captain Wyckoff, Captain Thyng was chosen to command the Olean Rifles; application was made for the establishment of a National Guard company under the Military Code; a large number of the former Citizens' Hose Company united with

the rifle company, and on March 29, 1887, were mustered into the State service as the 43d Separate Company, attached to 4th Brigade Headquarters at Buffalo, by Colonel Thomas H. McGrath, Inspector-General. Lieutenants Lee and Carringer continued in their respective positions, and Dr. Selden J. Mudge was appointed assistant surgeon. The quarters were moved to the third floor of the Gillingham Block, and drills were held in a roller-skating rink.

Arms and uniforms were issued by the State; the rifle was the fifty calibre, one-half inch, Springfield; the uniforms of heavy wool; forage caps like those of the Civil War; a black and a white helmet; sky-blue trousers with wide white stripes; canvas leggings; a navy blue dress and full dress coat; oilcloth knapsack and a haversack. The helmets were resplendent with brass spikes and chains; the coats with brass buttons. The ability of the soldier was gauged by the brilliance of his "brass" and the precision of his marching.

The State purchased a large brick dwelling, partly completed on the death of the owner, together with some additional land, and converted the dwelling into an armory, with a large drill shed attached. This was occupied in 1890 and was made the occasion for a drive for recruits which resulted in a greatly increased membership. The company became the leading social organization of the village, and the armory the place for holding the annual charity ball, the social event of the year, carnivals, fairs and regular informal dancing parties.

The company performed a week's tour of duty at the State camp at Peekskill in 1888, 1889 and 1890, the men sleeping on cots in tents with wooden floors, set up in advance, and eating at a mess hall or restaurant operated by the State. The training consisted in learning the intricacies of battalion drill, dress-parade, guard-mount and guard duty. The principal diversion was "running the guard."

In 1890 Lieutenants Lee and Carringer left Olean. Their positions were filled by Russell M. Whitney, as first lieutenant, and Richard H. Franchot, as second lieutenant. Lieutenant Whitney had served in the Civil War, and was discharged with the brevet rank of major, by which title he was generally known. Because of his experience he gave the company a more practical military turn. He scrupulously observed the regulation which forbade an officer to curse a soldier, but he had an abundant supply of epithets for what the soldier did; a small distinction with a great difference.

The company participated in the Washington Centennial Parade and were quartered in the old Madison Square Garden from April 29th to May 1, 1889. On August 17, 1892, it experienced its first

service of a war-like character, having been ordered to Buffalo for duty in suppressing the riots in connection with the switchmen's strike. At first some stones were thrown, but no shots were fired and the regular duty became that of riding freight cars through the railroad yards, from which service the blue uniforms soon became covered with pitch from boxcar roofs and coal dust. For the first time the company operated its own kitchen, which was very rudimentary, the staple articles of diet being canned baked beans, soused mackerel, canned salmon and bread, varied with some fresh vegetables and, occasionally,



MAIN STREET, CATTARAUGUS, 1893

fresh meat purchased from the company treasury. The writer became company cook *pro tempore,* because, when detailed to the kitchen, he devised a means for making toast and introduced creamed potatoes prepared with diluted condensed milk. The men were quartered in the Lehigh Valley Railroad car shop, sleeping on hay bunks. A prodigious amount of emery cloth was consumed in keeping the bright steel barrels of the rifles free from rust.

Captain Thyng died during a visit to New York City on October 14, 1894. Major Whitney declined promotion to the administrative duties of captain which, in a separate company, involved all the records, reports and accounts of a regimental staff. Lieutenant Franchot was thereupon elected captain by the men, as then provided by law,

and George M. Mayer, then first sergeant, was elected as second lieutenant. May 1, 1898, Lieutenant Mayer was elected first lieutenant in place of Major Whitney, who had resigned. Shortly after, Henry H. Weber was elected second lieutenant.

During this period the company performed a week's tour of duty at Peekskill every other year; with the Hornell and Elmira companies it acted as escort to Governor Flower and gave an exhibition drill at the Hornell Fair in August, 1894, and took part in the dedication of Grant's Tomb in New York City.

Early in May, 1898, the call for volunteers for the war with Spain was made. All but a few men with dependent families responded and the company was ordered to Camp Black on Long Island, where the 3d New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment was formed of twelve separate companies located in western New York, the Olean company becoming Company I. Near the end of May the regiment was ordered to Camp Alger, Virginia, notorious for its embalmed beef and typhoid epidemic, from which six men of Company I died, and many more suffered permanently impaired health; more casualties than many a company sustained at San Juan Hill.

The company received special commendation from the corps commander for its conduct on a tour of provost guard duty at Falls Church, Virginia. In August it was moved to Camp Mead, near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and remained there until discharged from Federal service on September thirteenth. During this service the men learned to pitch conical tents, and the company operated its own kitchen.

After the war, the Olean company, with those at Jamestown, Medina, Niagara Falls and Tonawanda, were organized as the 1st Battalion, commanded by Major M. B. Butler, of Niagara Falls. Lieutenant Mayer was assigned to the battalion staff; First Sergeant William Cobb was elected first lieutenant, and Corporal Arlie A. McNeille, second lieutenant in place of Lieutenant Weber, who had been commissioned as a volunteer officer only in the Federal service. Dr. Loren J. Eddy became the medical officer.

The company took part in a reunion of the 3d New York Volunteers at Rochester on July 4, 1899, and in the reception to Admiral Dewey, at New York City, in September; also in a practice march along Lake Ontario in 1900, pitching camp three times. Dr. Eddy died in 1900, and was succeeded by Dr. J. Ross Allen as assistant surgeon. In 1901 it formed part of Governor Odell's escort at the Pan-American Exposition, and attended training camps at Farnham on

Lake Erie in 1903, 1905, 1907, 1909 and 1913. In 1902 Lieutenant McNeille resigned and was succeeded by Dana L. Jewell. Captain Franchot left Olean in 1904. Lieutenant Cobb became captain and Lieutenant Jewell first lieutenant. Edward H. Wright was elected second lieutenant. The company formed part of the escort of Governor Frank W. Higgins at Albany upon his inauguration in January, 1905.

In 1907 another reorganization created the 3d New York Infantry Regiment, composed substantially of the same units as the Spanish War volunteer regiment. Captain Cobb was transferred to the regimental staff as ordnance officer and Dr. Allen as battalion surgeon; Lieutenant Jewell became captain; Lieutenant Wright, first lieutenant, and Copeland E. Smith, second lieutenant. Dr. Thomas B. Loughlin was appointed assistant surgeon. During 1908 the company took part in parades at Salamanca and Nunda, where camp was pitched. It formed part of the escort for President Taft, and spent three days in Washington in 1909; acted as escort to Governor Hughes on a visit to the Olean Fair and paraded and made camp at the Little Valley Fair. In 1910 it took part in the dedication of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial at Syracuse with the regiment and attended the Toronto Fair as part of a provisional battalion. Lieutenant Wright resigned in 1910 and was succeeded by Lieutenant Smith. Dr. Herschel D. Raub was elected to succeed Lieutenant Smith as second lieutenant.

In 1905 the company rifle range was moved to the Barse Farm, where ranges up to one thousand two hundred yards were provided. From that time on the company developed a decided interest in rifle practice. It took several brigade prizes for company efficiency, called "figure of merit," and its teams won the Hoffman (regimental) trophy for four successive years; it had from two to six representatives on every battalion and regimental team from 1900 to 1915, and Sergeant Fred C. Achenbach was a member of the State team in the National Matches of 1925, 1926, and 1927.

In 1911 the company spent two weeks at the division training camp at Pine Plains, New York, where it engaged in tactical exercises which had been inaugurated at the Farnham Camp in 1909 on a small scale, and which had been supplemented by map problems during the winter months, under the instruction of Captain R. F. Walton, United States Army, a West Pointer with service at San Juan Hill and in the Philippines, who was an honor graduate of the Army Service School. This instruction was such as few army officers had received at the outbreak

of the World War. During this period the men were ordered to attend several week-end camps when they lived in shelter tents and cooked their meals individually on their army mess kits. They soon became adept, although at first the experience was hard on the digestion, and many amusing episodes occurred.



ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, RANDOLPH, 1893

This gradual development over a period of twenty-five years finally produced a company fit for campaign and completed the transformation from volunteer fireman to practical soldier, able to shoot accurately, march and live comfortably in the field, also with some idea as how battles should be fought.

As a result, on April 9, 1913, when ordered by telegram received at 1 A. M., it reported in Buffalo at 11 A. M. fully armed, equipped

and supplied with rations, prepared for service anywhere it might be sent in connection with the street car riots then in progress. It remained on duty for a week, guarding street car tracks and wires against sabotage. The application of simple tactical principles obviated any clash with strikers or their sympathizers. It took part in the Commodore Perry Celebration at Buffalo in September of the same year.

Captain Jewell resigned in 1913 and was succeeded by Lieutenant Smith, who was in turn succeeded by Lieutenant Raub. Frank J. Consedine was elected second lieutenant. Dr. Loughlin resigned the following year and Dr. James J. Clark was appointed in his place. Lieutenant Raub resigned in 1913; Lieutenant Consedine became first lieutenant and James F. Oakleaf was elected second lieutenant from civil life. With the exception of Captain Franchot and its first officers, every other officer had served in the ranks.

The company acted as escort to Governor Whitman on a visit to Olean in 1915, and took part in Preparedness Day parade in Rochester with the regiment in June, 1916. From June to October, 1916, it was again in Federal service, first at Camp Whitman, near Beacon, New York, and later on the Mexican Border at Pharr, Texas, where the duty consisted of routine camp life, practice marches, cutting cactus and hunting rattlesnakes.

In January, 1917, the armory was practically destroyed by fire, attributed to defective electric wiring; the former dwelling house was completely ruined and the drill shed badly damaged. Temporary quarters were obtained, first, in the Pierce tin shop and later, in the Palace Theatre Building, where it was located when war was declared against Germany and its allies.

On April 13, 1917, the call came for war service, and on April eighteenth the company was mustered into Federal service again. It departed immediately for Elmira, with 3 officers and 155 enlisted men. Lieutenant Clark had left Olean and resigned. The summer was spent in guarding utilities at Elmira and, after a short encampment at Pelham Bay, New York, the company was ordered to Spartanburg, South Carolina, with the 27th Division, and underwent the regular training camp service of the time. The 3d New York Infantry became the 108th United States Infantry; the regimental organization was radically changed and the enlisted strength increased from 155 to 250 per company. As a result many officers above the grade of lieutenant were shifted. Captain Smith was transferred to the 55th Pioneer Regiment, with which he went to France. Lieutenant Oak-

leaf was promoted to first lieutenant and assigned as regimental intelligence officer. Lieutenants Higgins and Consedine resigned. Captain Damasse J. Cadotte, of the 74th Regiment of Buffalo, took command of Company I, and it had no local officers during its entire war service.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, FRANKLINVILLE, 1893

The company sailed from Norfolk, Virginia, on the "General Grant," late in April, landed at Brest on May thirtieth, and after a short interval near Pont Remy, was assigned to aid the British on the Belgian front, where they took part in actions at Mt. Kemmel (Vierstraat Ridge), East Poperinghe and Dickebusch, suffering some losses. Later it participated in engagements at the Knoll, Guillemont Farm,

Quennemont Farm, St. Maurice River (Catilon), and in the battles which broke the Hindenburg Line (Bony), LaSalle River (St. Souplet), and Jonc de Mar Ridge (Arbre Gueimon).

In these engagements forty men were killed in action or died of wounds, and 123 were wounded or gassed. All the commissioned officers were killed early in the morning at Bony: Captain Joseph W. Smith and Lieutenants Harold McKay and Thomas Kerr. First Sergeant Lawrence F. Prizer, Sergeant Ernest H. Colbert, and Corporal Roy O. Miller were also killed and many other non-commissioned officers disabled. The few remaining did heroic work leading the company. Corporal Donald L. Mess and Private H. Max Norton were awarded British Distinguished Service medals and Corporal W. Stewart Love, a citation. As usual in such cases many another case of gallant conduct escaped the notice of headquarters.

The company returned to America, sailing from Brest on the steamship "Mauretania," in March, and arrived in Olean April 1, 1919, under the command of Captain James F. Oakleaf, who had been promoted and transferred a short time previously. It had been mustered out of Federal service at Camp Merritt, New Jersey, the day before. A rousing welcome greeted them.

Commissions were granted to several enlisted men of Company I during the World War: Major Courtland M. Hulings, First Lieutenant Charles R. McCauley, and Second Lieutenants Wester W. Baker, Clement G. Felt, and J. Leon Seitler, who served with other units. Former members of the company who served as officers in the war were: Colonel Chester B. McCormick, United States Artillery; Captains Richard H. Franchot, George W. Branch, Robert H. Brooks, Harry F. Douglas, Dana L. Jewell, and Second Lieutenant John G. Duke.

When the company was mustered into Federal service the depot unit, which had been organized during its service on the Mexican Border, was promptly revived as a home guard, other units of which were formed at Salamanca, Randolph, South Dayton, and were uniformed and equipped by the county.

Captain Jewell entered officers' training camp in August, as did many other former National Guard officers, because no provision was made by the military experts in Washington for utilizing directly the training and experience of such officers. Their records were on file with the Bureau of Militia Affairs and contained the data as to their instruction under such instructors as Captain Walton, as well as inspection reports upon their ability to command; but these records were

apparently ignored and these officers, many of them with years of successful command, were sent to receive rudimentary instruction under young college professors with three months' previous training.

Lieutenant Raub succeeded Captain Jewell in command of the home guard company; former Sergeants VanAntwerp Simmons and Charles E. Scheiterle became the lieutenants, and Dr. Loughlin returned as medical officer. Later Lieutenant Scheiterle was promoted and assigned as battalion adjutant, and Harold A. Wright took his place. Captain Raub resigned in 1920. Captain Oakleaf then took command but, in turn, resigned about a year later.

The war veterans were discharged from the National Guard as well as from the United States Army, when mustered out of the latter. After several changes of designation the home guard company was mustered into the federalized National Guard of New York as Company I, 174th Infantry, on November 2, 1921, with Lieutenant Simmons as captain, and Lieutenants Scheiterle and Wright, as lieutenants. The position of assistant surgeon was abolished, and Dr. Leslie J. Atkins, who had succeeded Dr. Loughlin, was relieved. Lieutenant Wright resigned in 1926 and was succeeded by First Sergeant Leo R. Koslow, who resigned and was in turn succeeded by Sergeant Frederick C. Oswick.

The armory was rebuilt and reoccupied in November, 1919.

CHAPTER XLI

History of Olean

By Maud D. Brooks

From the beginning of our history the general movement of the population has been westward and, after the close of the war of the Revolution, the movement became more rapid. At first most of the holdings were in the hands of a few prospectors or speculating companies, but about 1800 this policy was modified in order to meet the desires of men of small means. These tracts, varying in size, were carefully surveyed, divided and subdivided into ranges and townships and sold to the venturesome pioneers who, for one reason or another, were lured to certain localities. In 1790 Robert Morris, of Philadelphia, the financier of the Revolution and one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, acquired by purchase from Phelps and Gorham a large tract in New York State amounting to over one million, two hundred and sixty-four thousand acres, but he soon sold this property to Sir William Pultney, who appointed Captain Charles Williamson as his agent. On account of some difficulty with the Indian title, the "Pultney Estate" and Phelps and Gorham, another large land company, were obliged to re-convey much of their purchase to the State of Massachusetts, and the lands thus relinquished were sold to Robert Morris on May 11, 1791, and the tract of the first deed soon became known as the "Morris Reserve." The other four tracts were sold subsequently to several representatives of Holland capitalists and were collectively known as "The Holland Purchase." Reports soon became circulated that the preëmption line had been incorrectly run, so Robert Morris made preparations for a new survey. Among those first designated to make this survey was Major Adam Hoops, as indicated by the following:

Being intimately acquainted with Major Adam Hoops, a Revolutionary soldier and a resident of Philadelphia, and from whom Mr.

Morris has previously obtained valuable information as to the character of the country, he engaged the Major to explore the country and afterwards to survey such portions, as had not been surveyed, to re-survey others, and particularly to re-survey the pre-emption line.

Among some papers of Robert Morris (relating to his purchase of western lands) now in the possession of the New York Historical Society, there is a letter addressed to Oliver Phelps, dated Philadelphia, June 13, 1791, in which Mr. Morris says: "Mr. Hoops is the gentleman I have fixed on to survey those lands, which I purchased of Mr. Gorham and you. He is possessed of my instructions and authority to effect this business." The survey of this tract was made in 1791-92.

The following is an extract from a letter written by Robert Morris to Captain Williamson, Ontario County, New York, dated September 20, 1792: "Get from Mr Hoops one large map of all the lands the associated company bought of me, as soon as the survey is completed, and then have all the tracts, or farms as you sell them, surveyed and regularly marked on the map, etc."

On the sixteenth day of February, 1793, at Philadelphia, Major Hoops made a "Return of Survey" of sundry townships and tracts of land in the county of Ontario and State of New York, belonging to the purchase of Robert Morris, and transferred by him to Sir William Pultney and others. A copy of this valuable historic paper is in the possession of the attorney for the Pultney estate at Geneva. Major Hoops was connected with the early surveys for some years, and his name appears on the account books of Captain Williamson in 1793 and 1795.

On July 20, 1797, Robert Morris wrote to his son, Thomas Morris, who was representing his father's interests at Canandaigua, as follows: "I have engaged Mr. Adam Hoops to go and attend or superintend the surveys on my behalf. I can rely on his integrity." And again, on July 29, 1797, he addressed his son thus: "I had agreed with Major Hoops, before the receipt of your letter, to go and superintend the survey of the Genesee country. He is a man on whom I can perfectly depend, his care, regularity, sobriety and attention to business is equal to any man's, but whether his practical, or scientific, knowledge of surveying is equal to that of Mr. Augustus Porter, whom you recommend, I do not know, but I do suppose there will be employment for both and I shall recommend Mr. Porter to be employed in the business." Early in 1798, Joseph Ellicott was employed by the Holland Land Company to direct their surveys, and

at the time of his departure, Robert Morris, at the request of Mr. Cazenova the agent of that company, wrote to Major Adam Hoops, then at Canandaigua, announcing the appointment of Joseph Ellicott, with whom Major Hoops was intimately acquainted, and telling him to give Mr. Ellicott whatever assistance or advice that was necessary. It was, no doubt, about this time that Major Hoops visited this section and observed that the headwaters of the Allegheny would be an advantageous point for a settlement.

While all histories of this region state that the first contract for the sale of land within the boundaries of Cattaraugus County was made by the Holland Land Company in 1803 to Major Adam Hoops, there have been but brief, and often inaccurate, references made to this founder of Olean and to his brother, Major Robert Hoops, who was his resident agent. Indeed, it is only in recent years, and after considerable research, that any definite facts have been learned concerning the Hoops' ancestry and the early activities of these two men, who located and named our fair city "Olean."

The Hoops (Hoopes) family was of Irish Quaker descent, the first of the name who came to America from Cleveland, Yorkshire, England, being Joshua Hoops. He arrived September, 1683, with his wife Isabel and children: Daniel, of further mention, Margarey, and Christian. Joshua Hoops settled in Falls, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, where he took an active part in affairs and represented Bucks County in the Provincial Assembly of Pennsylvania from 1686 to 1711. His son, Daniel (who spelled his name Hoopes), moved to Chester County in 1690, and on December 10, 1696, he married Jane Worrilow. They settled at Westtown and had, it is said, seventeen children. Daniel Hoopes became a large land owner and was prominent in the development of that locality, representing Chester County in the Assembly in 1707-09. Marriage records of many of his descendants have been found.

The ancestor of Major Adam Hoops is thought to have been Robert Hoopes, born August 18, 1639, died in 1719, aged eighty years. He was a brother of Joshua aforementioned, and went to Lurgan, Ireland, about 1660. He was converted to Quakerism, and later became a preacher. He had ten children, one of whom was Adam, the father of both Major Adam and Major Robert Hoops. He was born in 1709, and came to this country early in the eighteenth century, and married "Elizabeth." He lived in that part of Chester County, Pennsylvania, that later became Lancaster County in 1729, and Cumberland County in 1750. Many references to him as a land owner

and public official will be found in the "Pennsylvania Archives." His later years were spent in Philadelphia, where he became a wealthy merchant. He died June 30, 1771, leaving a widow and eight children, five daughters and three sons, also two sisters. Most of his fortune was left to his wife. He gave to his son Robert, "the plantation in West Jersey, called Pagness, gristmill and sawmill, horses, cows, household furniture, store and store goods, estimated at £4,000 sterling, and to his youngest son, Adam, was bequeathed the northernmost house and lot in Third Street, Philadelphia, adjacent to that given the lad's mother, when he arrived at the age of twenty years, and £2,000 sterling to be put to use for him, as soon after his (Robert Hoopes') decease as conveniently may be and the principal and interest thereof to be paid to him when he arrived at the age of twenty-one years. The residue of his fortune was divided equally between his eight children, Robert to have £1,500 sterling more than the rest.

His wife, who survived him eleven years, lived through the trying days of the Revolutionary War, and there are records extant showing that she contributed generously towards buying supplies for the Continental Army. She died July 9, 1782, aged sixty-two years. In her will, which is recorded in the register's office in Philadelphia, the following statement is made: "To Adam Hoops, who is now in France, all real estate of which I am possessed together with all rents and profits of the same." In case of his death, without heirs, this was to revert to the other children, share and share alike. Two of her sons-in-law (Daniel Clark and James Mease) were named as executors. Adam Hoops; his wife, Elizabeth Hoops; their eldest daughter, Jane Clark, wife of Daniel Clark, of Mississippi Territory; and Major Adam Hoops are buried in the North Laurel Hill Cemetery at Philadelphia.

Major Adam Hoops, the youngest son of Adam and Elizabeth Hoops, was born January 9, 1760, in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. It is told that at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, he was a student of Dr. Witherspoon, at Princeton, New Jersey, and one day when the recruiting party passed, the doctor remarked, "there is where your thoughts are and there is where you ought to be." Five or six of the students took the good doctor at his word and joined the army, young Adam Hoops among them. In Heitman's "Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army during the War of the Revolution," appears the following record relative to the military services of Adam Hoops: "Hoops, Adam, 2d Lieut 4th Maryland, 10th December, 1776; 1st Lieut., 15 October, 1777; Captain, 15th October, 1779;

taken prisoner at Camden, 16th August, 1780; transferred to 2d Maryland, 1st January, and was a prisoner on parole to close of war."

In the War Department the name of Adam Hoops, with rank given as "Captain," appears in a list not dated, of officers of the 2d (Gunby's) Maryland Regiment, which list bears the remark "March 16th, 1781," opposite his name.

In the "Journals of the Continental Congress," under date of August 9, 1781, it states that Adam Hoops presented a memorial for discharge and permission to go to France, which was referred to the Board of War, and some weeks later, granted. He evidently sailed soon, as the statement "now in France" is made by his mother in her will dated July 18, 1782.

Major Adam Hoops acted as an aide-de-camp to General John Sullivan in his expedition against the Indians in 1779. This was one of the most memorable events in his career.

On May 27, 1785, Major Adam Hoops was named as a surveyor for Pennsylvania, to ascertain the best ways for disposing of lands in the western territory. It was not long after that he became associated with Robert Morris, making frequent visits to his holdings in northern Pennsylvania and western New York. In 1793 he was sent with Charles Bué Boulogne, a French lawyer, to select the site for the refuge for Marie Antoinette and her children. This they located on the upper Susquehanna River, not far from the present town of Athens, Pennsylvania, and named it appropriately, "Azilum." The "Journal of Entry of the Azilum Company," kept in the sturdy penmanship of Adam Hoops, the trusted Quaker agent of Robert Morris, who was president of that company, is in existence, as are also two other account books kept by Hoops covering this interesting period. Under an Act of Congress, dated April 27, 1798, the "Regiment of Artillerists and Engineers" was organized and on June first, Adam Hoops was appointed major of the Pennsylvania National Troops, Artillerists and Engineers, which commission he held until his resignation, July 31, 1800. During this time he was stationed at Fort Jay, on Governors Island, and thus became intimately associated with Alexander Hamilton, who was the virtual head of the American Army. As a result of these friendly relations, Major Hoops was granted special privileges when he made his purchase of land in western New York, in appreciation of which he called the first settlement at the junction of Oil Creek and the Allegheny River, "Hamilton," and naming the whole township "Olean."

In 1801 we find that Major Adam Hoops again had dealings with Captain Charles Williamson, at Canandaigua, and there are many letters on file in the Buffalo Historical Society in which he sets forth the advantages of a settlement at this point. After investigation, and the exchange of many letters, he finally purchased 20,054 acres of land, the sale being consummated in the fall of 1803. The next spring he set out to visit his purchase and wrote to Joseph Ellicott, giving him instructions regarding the survey. In this letter, dated April 15, 1804, the following interesting statement appears:

It was proposed to me at New York to drop the Indian name of Ischue, or Ischua. (It is spelt in other ways.) Confusion might perhaps arise from the various spellings, of which to obviate all risks, I have concluded to do as proposed. The neighborhood of the *Oil Spring* suggests a name, different in sound, tho' perhaps not of different meaning, which I wish to adopt. It is *Olean.* You will do me a favor by assisting me to establish this name; it may easily be done now by your concurrence.

The purpose would most effectually be announced by employing the term when occasion requires, without saying anything of an intended change of name. To begin, you will greatly oblige me by addressing the first letter you may have occasion to write me, after I receive the surveys, to the *Mouth of Olean.* The bearer being properly instructed. There will be thereafter no difficulty. Your coöperation in this matter, the effect of which tho' not important in itself, may be so on account of precision.

Your ob. servant,

To Joseph Ellicott, Esq. A. Hoops.
Batavia.

This letter is accurate proof of the naming of this community. There are several letters on file addressed to Major Hoops, at the mouth of Olean, indicating that his suggestion relating to change of name was acted upon at once. Adam Hoops was soon joined by his brother, Major Robert Hoops, who became his resident agent, and he it was who erected the first double log house near the river, on what was later known as the "Martin Farm," and now designated as "East Olean." He remained here until his death on August 7, 1818.

Major Adam Hoops' dream of the settlement which he located at this point on the Allegheny River, was never fully realized. In a few years he was unable to complete his payments, thus part of the tract reverted to the Holland Land Company, and a portion passed into the ownership of Ebenezer F. Norton. After the foreclosure of the mortgage Adam Hoops had no further interests in this locality, although in 1820 he was assessed for fifty-four acres of land in the

town of Hinsdale. There is but little known of his subsequent life, though undoubtedly he lived for a time at Canandaigua, as mention is made of him by Charles Williamson and by Chancellor Kent in letters, and by other records of that period. On March 8, 1824, Major Adam Hoops was made military storekeeper of ordnance and was stationed at Watervliet, New York. This position he held until honorably discharged, October 1, 1842. His application for pension was made from Watervliet, Albany County, New York, December 30, 1828, and it was allowed for over five years' actual service as a cap-



OLEAN FROM RESERVOIR HILL, 1893

tain in the Maryland troops, Revolutionary War. The last years of his life were spent in West Chester, Pennsylvania, where he resided with a relative, Joshua Hoopes, who conducted a boys' school. The large brick house, built in 1838, still stands on the corner of Biddle and Matlack streets. Adam Hoops died there, June 9, 1846, and is buried in the North Laurel Hill Cemetery, at Philadelphia. The following is a copy of the inscription upon his tombstone:

In Memory of
MAJOR ADAM HOOPS
1st Regiment U. S. Artillery
A gallant, accomplished and patriotic soldier of the Revolution
Born at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, on the 9th day of January, A. D. 1760
Died at West Chester, Pennsylvania, on the 9th day of June,
A. D. 1846

Little is known concerning Major Robert Hoops, who braving the dangers of the wilderness, made his home here, became friendly with the Indians and made the early settlers welcome. However, from numerous records on file in the State Archives and historical societies of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and the Library of Congress, it has been possible to glean many facts concerning the life and interests of Olean's pioneer citizen. He was born in 1742. The earliest records thus far found, state that in the year 1769 he was assessed for 120 acres of land, one horse, four cattle, and six sheep in Sadsbury, Chester County, Pennsylvania. At his father's death he came into the possession of considerable property in New Jersey on both sides of the Pequest. He sold that on the south side to Robert Morris, and later surveyed his holdings on the north side into lots and named the town "Mercer," calling his own estate "Belvidere," probably on account of the beauty of its situation. Later the town became known by this name. Evidently Major Robert Hoops was an active business man and a staunch patriot. Many letters and reports are extant which reveal his ability, loyalty and patriotism.

Soon after Major Robert Hoops took up his residence in New Jersey, he married Martha Cottnam, daughter of Abraham Cottnam, a prominent resident of Trenton. Cottnam died in 1775, naming "Robert Hoops" as one of his executors. On February 21, 1774, at a council held at Burlington, Major Robert Hoops was appointed justice of the peace in the county of Hunterdon, and on January 22, 1778, his name appears as a member of the Legislative Council for the same county. Heitman, in his "Historical Register" gives the following: "Hoops, Robert (N. J.) Brigade-Major to General Dickinson in 1776; Deputy Commissary-General of Issues, 1st July, 1777; resigned August, 1777." On p. 53 of "Battle of Trenton and Princeton," by Stryker, appears this statement: "On December 7, 1776, Washington had dispatched from Trenton, Major Robert Hoops, Brigade-Major on staff of Brigadier-General Philemon Dickinson, to urge General Lee to hasten his march, and inform him that boats had been provided to transport men across the river (Delaware) at what

was then known as Tinicum Ferry." The headquarters of General Washington at this time was at "Somerset," a mansion belonging to Thomas Barclay, of Philadelphia, whose wife was Mary Hoops, a sister of Major Adam and Robert Hoops. In the "New Jersey Archives" mention is made of Mrs. Robert Hoops as among the ladies of New Jersey emulating their patriotic sisters of Pennsylvania in giving aid to the soldiers, by forming committees to secure contributions for the relief and encouragement of the soldiers of the Continental army and making hospital supplies.

Martha (Cottnam) Hoops died February 2, 1797, and a few years later, Major Robert Hoops disposed of his property in Belvidere and, in 1804, joined his brother, Major Adam Hoops, in Olean. From some of his letters, written during the early years of the settlement here, much can be learned of local conditions in the opening of roads and other matters.

The first gristmill in Olean was built by Major Robert Hoops in 1809, and the town records show that he was one of the assessors and also overseer of highways for the fifth district in 1809. As he was a widower, without a family, his name and association with the early history of Olean became quickly lost. On October 4, 1929, the Olean Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, presented a granite monument, with bronze marker, in memory of Olean's first settler, Major Robert Hoops, which is placed in the War Veterans Park, East State Street, not far from the spot where he erected the first log house. At the time Olean observed its centennial, in October, 1904, this same patriotic organization erected a boulder in Lincoln Park, with a marker inscribed:

In memory of
MAJOR ADAM HOOPS
a soldier of the Revolution, and founder of Olean, 1804,
and to keep in remembrance the patriots of the War for Independence,
buried in Cattaraugus County, New York

The first map of Olean was made by Enos Kellogg, and bears the date of July 16, 1805. In 1806 there arrived at the Hoops settlement John and Cornelius Brooks, Wyllys Thrall, and William Shepard, and in the spring of 1808, James G. Johnson came, as did also Sylvanus Russell and Bibbins Follett. Other settlers began coming into this section about this time, locating at other points in what is now known as Cattaraugus County, but progress was slow, the census for 1810 giving the population as 458, with but forty-three senatorial electors and four settlements as follows: Hamilton, Hoops, Oil

Spring, and McClure's. Of these Olean Point, or Hamilton Village, located at the junction of Olean Creek and the Allegheny River, was the most important. A map made by E. Johnson, in 1808, shows the original plan of the several streets, with a public square, a burying ground and site for a school indicated, also the location of the two points of embarkation, called the upper and lower landings. It is interesting to note that the streets on this map are all named in honor



UNION STREET FROM STATE STREET, OLEAN, 1893

of patriots of the war of 1776, personal friends of the founder. The two main thoroughfares were designated Union and State streets, as at present; those running parallel to Union being: Barry, on the east, as now; the others, Warren, Montgomery, Mercer, Putnam, and Wayne; while the other streets, running east and west, beginning at the river, were: Greene, Henley, Laurens and Sullivan. As the town grew, some of these names were changed and eliminated, the new streets running north and south being designated by numbers. It is a matter of regret that no section of the city now bears these original names, though the names of Washington, Hamilton, Clin-

ton, Jay, Tompkins, Lincoln, Fulton, Seneca, Kittanning and Irving lend historic dignity to our local map.

Perhaps just here some reference should be made to the hill at the foot of Union Street, across the river, commonly known as "Mt. Hermanns" (often misspelled "Hermance"). It seems that in 1864 Herr Joseph Hermanns, a native of Switzerland, in passing through Olean observed this hill, which for some reason reminded him of his native land. On September 20, 1864, he purchased about ninety-four acres for $3,550. Later, at the cost of about $5,000, he had a road constructed to the top of the hill, where he intended to erect a home. He is said to have spent several summers here, but for some reason sold the property, August 28, 1873, to Erasmus Barrows, and disappeared from this locality. Seneca Heights, the residential section which was developed in 1920, is located on this property. In an effort to learn something further of this man whose name is so definitely associated with our city, the writer after considerable research, has discovered the following facts: Herr Joseph Hermanns was a celebrated basso, and came from Her Majesty's Theatre in London early in 1864 to join the German Opera Company, organized in Philadelphia a few months before by Lemuel Grover, and conducted by Karl Anscheutz, an eminent musician of that period. During the next few years he appeared with that company in the leading cities, winning acclaim for his vocal and dramatic performances. Among his outstanding rôles were Falstaff in the "Merry Wives of Windsor," and Mephistopheles in "Faust." He also appeared in the first performance of "Tannhauser," given in Boston, January 28, 1871. On July 31, 1869, Herr Hermanns was the bass soloist in the "Messiah," given by the German Sangerfest in Baltimore. He was married, as the name of his wife Elizabeth appears on the deed transferring his property here.

The access to Olean was by difficult and circuitous roads by way of Bath and Angelica to King's Settlement in Pennsylvania, and thence by way of the river. The first road, which could properly be termed as such, was authorized by an act of the Legislature, April 10, 1810, the surveyor appointed to lay out this highway being Major Moses Van Campen. Apparently this road was not opened until 1815, another highway from the south being completed in 1825. Olean soon became the point of embarkation for the host of emigrants seeking homes in the fertile lands of Ohio and other points west. Every spring found hundreds of people waiting for the river to reach its flood stages, so that they might make their way in flat-bottomed boats,

called arks, or on rafts of lumber to Pittsburgh and thence down the Ohio, and often even down the Mississippi to New Orleans. A statement comes down from that early period that during a single season of 1818 more than three thousand persons took passage down the Allegheny River from Olean Point, which was not an unusual record.

This influx of a transient population crowded the village, some being taken into private homes, many camping in rude shanties or tents, even in their own wagons, while others patronized the inns, of which there seem to have been several. The first tavern was opened by Sylvanus Russell at what is now the corner of South Union and West Greene streets. Ebenezer Reed kept a tavern at the foot of Twelfth Street, then known as Mercer Street, where the Lower Boat House was located; while Jehiel Boardman also opened an inn on the north side of the creek, the present site of the residence of the late Mrs. John Bradner, who was his great-granddaughter. Ebenezer Reed and Jehiel Boardman were both soldiers of the Revolution. Luman N. Rice, who came to Olean in 1818, immediately opened an inn, which was partly built of logs with a frame wing at one end, and occupied the site just south of the present public library, and in 1819 he purchased the "Hamilton Hotel," which had been built in 1811, and conducted by Horatio Orton and located, according to an advertisement in the first issue of the "Hamilton Recorder," where the city hall now stands. This advertisement, which appeared in Vol. I, No. 1 of this newspaper, is as follows:

The subscriber, having purchased the tavern stand lately owned by Horatio Orton, on the north-west corner of the Public Square, would respectfully inform the public that he has removed to the same stand, and is fitting up the new house for the entertainment of travellers; where he expects, in a few days, to afford good accommodations on the most reasonable terms; and assures all who may please to favor him with their custom, that no pains shall be spared on his part, to render their stay at his house as comfortable as his situation in so new a country will admit. LUMAN N. RICE.

Hamilton, June 9, 1819.

A few years later he sold this hotel to Ebenezer Lockwood, who acted as "mine host" of this hostelry until 1833. The above-mentioned Luman N. Rice was born in Glastonbury, Connecticut, January 18, 1787, and came to Olean from Cortland County. In 1822 he moved to Portville, where he erected a sawmill, store, and subsequently a hotel, which was burned in 1831. He had seven children, his daughter, Marcia P., marrying Olcott P. Boardman, of Olean, where they

resided the rest of their lives. Mr. Rice was one of the most prominent pioneers of Portville, where he died aged eighty-seven years, on June 18, 1874. Another early merchant and hotel keeper was David Bockes, who arrived in Olean about 1817, from Albany. He held various offices with fidelity and ability. He was considered wealthy for those days and for many years lived on the road to Westons Mills,



(Courtesy of Olean Public Library)

OLEAN HOUSE, 1870

where the house still stands. Some of his family moved west, though a few descendants still live in this vicinity.

As has been noted, the first settlers, after the arrival of Major Robert Hoops, were Cornelius Brooks, and his brother John, who came originally from Hunterdon County, New Jersey, locating for a few years at Tioga Center, and from thence to Olean in 1806, where he purchased several hundred acres of land in what is now designated the Pleasant Valley section. He was the progenitor of the family of

that name, which has been identified with Olean throughout its history. Cornelius Brooks, the brother, was born in Amwell, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, March 17, 1758. On July 9, 1776, he enlisted as a fifer in Captain Jayne's company, 1st Battalion of Associators, county of Northampton, Province of Pennsylvania, which composed part of the "Flying Camp." He married Mary Hyndshaw, June 16, 1778, and they had eight daughters, but only one son, James, who was born October 28, 1784, in Wallpack Township, Sussex County, New Jersey. As his brother-in-law, James Hyndshaw, was a partner of Major Robert Hoops in Belvidere, it was undoubtedly from personal acquaintance with Major Hoops that he was induced to move to this section, and naturally took an active part in local affairs. From 1809 to 1820, Cornelius Brooks was justice of the peace, his oath of office being taken in the three counties under which Olean was designated during that period: Niagara, Allegany and Cattaraugus. He also was commissioner of highways, and supervisor from 1811 to 1815. When the Presbyterian Church was first formed, August 28, 1822, Cornelius Brooks was one of the eight organizers. In 1812 he was joined by his son James, who was as interesting a character as any of the early settlers. He was appointed one of the first judges of the county in 1817, and in later years served as justice of the peace. He married Betsey Canfield, in 1816, and they had a family of ten children (five sons and five daughters), all born in Olean. Judge Brooks was an ardent Methodist, and noted for his hospitality, his residence becoming widely known as the "Methodist Tavern," from the fact that the itinerant preachers always found a cordial welcome there; in fact, he was reverently recognized as the "Father of Methodism" in this section of the country. He was also a firm supporter of the temperance cause and an active abolitionist, his home being a refuge, or station, on the "Underground Railroad." Judge Brooks was interested in developing his farmland and in lumbering, sending many rafts down the river annually. He died, April 17, 1854. Four of his sons (James, Reuben, Enos, and Amos) lived and married here and all were actively associated with the development and growth of the village up to the time of their deaths. A few of their descendants still reside in the city.

As has been stated, the town of Olean was formed at the same time that the county of Cattaraugus was established (March 11, 1808) and included, at that period, all the territory now embraced in the entire county, an area of 725,760 acres, which has since been reduced by numerous subdivisions to 21.846 acres. The first birth

within the present bounds of the town was a daughter of William Shepard, born May 22, 1807, and she was christened Olean Shepard. Later she married a Mr. Butts and resided in Buffalo. She died in Perry, New York, April 16, 1882.

The first death recorded in Olean was that of Mr. Shepard, which occurred September 21, 1809. The first male child born here was Marcus H. Johnson, born October 4, 1809. His brother, James G. Johnson, born September 13, 1811, was for many years one of Olean's



(Courtesy of Olean Public Library)

OLEAN HOUSE, 1875

most distinguished citizens. In 1848 he was elected to the State Legislature; in the fall of 1849 he became county clerk, and during the Civil War he served with the army of the Potomac as a captain and assistant quartermaster. At the close of the war he was promoted to the rank of colonel of volunteers. For many years he engaged in mercantile pursuits and was prominent in the establishment of the First National Bank, and was a director of that institution for several years. From 1871 to 1877 he was postmaster for Olean. Long before the development of oil in the Bradford area, Colonel Johnson

believed that petroleum would be found in paying quantities in this section and, with a few associates, formed a company which drilled the first oil well on land leased by him. One of his grandsons, Elisha M. Johnson, still resides here, and continues this interest in oil production.

Another early settler deserving special mention is the Hon. Timothy H. Porter. By profession he was a lawyer, and before coming to Olean represented the counties of Steuben and Allegany in the Assembly. He was appointed first judge of the county of Cattaraugus in 1817 and was district attorney in 1824. He gradually retired from the practice of law and settled on his farm, located just north of the property of Judge Brooks, where he died about 1843, leaving a family of six sons and a daughter.

In the spring of 1818 Frederick S. Martin came to Olean, bringing with him a stock of dry goods and groceries. These he bargained off for lumber, which he rafted down the river to Cincinnati. His investments, however, were not profitable, so in 1821 he leased from F. A. Norton the "Coffee House," a small hotel, standing upon the present site, it is stated, of the Olean House. In 1830 Frederick S. Martin was appointed postmaster, and the following year he leased his hotel and entered into the mercantile business with his brother-in-law, Oliver Russell, and when he withdrew, Judge Martin continued alone in this business until 1851, when he transferred the store to his son, Stanley Martin, giving his individual attention to his extensive farming and lumbering interests. In 1842 he rebuilt the Olean House so that it was the largest hotel in the county. Judge Martin also constructed a flour mill in 1852, a large sawmill, and built several dwelling houses. In all public enterprises he was among the first in liberality. In June, 1840, he was appointed a judge of the county court of Cattaraugus County, performing the duties for five years; then in 1847 he became a member of the State Senate, and later was elected to the Thirty-second Congress. At the close of his term of office, he withdrew from public life, spending his last years on his home farm, located in what is now East Olean, the section being called for many years the "Martin Farm." In 1820 Mr. Martin married Cornelia Russell, and became the father of nine children, one of the daughters being named Olean. Judge Martin was prominently identified with St. Stephen's Church, at the time of his death, in 1865, being senior warden.

Other prominent settlers who arrived in Olean between 1810 and 1820, were Seymour Bouton, David Day, Elkanah Day, Samuel Brun-

son, Colonel Luke Goodspeed, John Fobes, Anson King, Dr. Norman Smith, Zacheriah Oosterhoudt, Samuel Barrows, James Adkins, and Ebenezer Reed. During the next decade came Ahijah Warren, Daniel S. Dickinson, Rollin Pratt, David Godfrey, Thomas Oviatt, W. W. Penfield, and Dr. Edward Finn; and among those who located here between 1830 and 1840 were Dr. Lambert Whitney, Samuel Bradley, Roderick White, Norman Birge, John L. Smith, Ansel Adams, Charles H. Thing, and Caleb Smith. It would be interesting to give further details about the men and women who cleared the trails and participated in the events of those early years, but this is impossible because of the scheme of treatment in this work; however, many may be mentioned under other chapter headings.



(Courtesy of the Olean Public Library)

NORTH UNION STREET, OLEAN, AFTER THE GREAT FIRE OF JANUARY 15, 1866

The local post office was established November 10, 1817, and was first located in the store kept by Sylvanus Russell, at the corner of South Union and Greene streets. Later it occupied a small wooden building about where the public library now stands and, when the town hall was built, it was removed to that building, continuing there until the erection of the present Federal building.

Like most small communities, Olean was largely self-sufficing, supplying most of its wants by lumbering, hunting, fishing, farming and the various household industries. As a rule, during the early decades, amusements consisted chiefly of house-raisings, husking bees, quilting parties, singing schools and sleighing parties, while later, church socials and picnics added to the festivities. In fact, up to the time of the Civil War, culture in the rural districts was of little consideration. The democratic ferment of the '20s and '30s did, how-

ever, affect the intellectual and religious life throughout the country, and while there was almost no literary self-expression evident in western New York, there became a growing interest in religious matters, augmented by the missionary zeal of various evangelical bodies. The Presbyterian, Episcopal, and Methodist churches were the first established here, in the order named, and all have appropriately observed their centennials within recent years. The records of the early itinerant preachers reveal many interesting details of the condition of the country, the life on the farms and names of many of the leaders in the various communities.

It is to the efforts of one of these early missionaries, the Rev. John Spencer, that the foundation of the Presbyterian Church in Olean was laid; in fact many churches in western New York owe their organization to him, and his influence continued to be powerful for good until his death in 1826. A Josiah Tracy conducted a Sunday school here after "Father Spencer" had gathered the people together. The first movement for an organized church in Olean of which there is any record was made by Anson King, who wrote to a former pastor asking how to proceed in the matter. The reply, dated March 13, 1820, was sent by the hand of Rev. William Stone, and on August 28, 1822, a regular church was organized.

The eight charter members were: Cornelius Brooks, Ahijah C. Warren, Anson King, Norman Smith, John Boardman, Bathsheba Warren, Sophia King and Abigail Smith. After several years, weakened by death and removals, the services were discontinued and the organization lapsed. However, on March 25, 1836, it was reorganized with Judge Atkins and Henry Dusenbury, of Portville, as the elders. In 1839 the present lot was purchased and the first small church built. Until 1856 the church was aided from home mission funds, but in that year it became self-supporting, and a new house of worship was erected at a cost of $6,000. This was repaired and enlarged in 1878. Additional changes were made from time to time. The present beautiful and commodious edifice was dedicated September 21, 1913, at which time the Rev. Harry Burton Boyd was pastor. The Rev. Whitney M. Trousdale assumed the pastorate in 1938.

The first organized effort to establish an Episcopal Church in Olean is recorded to have taken place February 22, 1930, and the first class of ten persons was confirmed August twenty-third by the Right Rev. Henry Onderdonk, Bishop of New York. The land upon which St. Stephen's Church stands was donated by Frederick S. Norton, and the first church building was completed and consecrated on the seventh

of September, 1839, by the Right Rev. W. H. DeLancy, first Bishop of Western New York. In spite of a constant change of rectors, the congregation seems to have increased and the church property has been added to by the purchase of a rectory on Barry Street, a short



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, OLEAN, 1893

distance below the church; this was later sold for the purpose of building the one now located on South Clinton Street. In 1883 the vestry extended a call to the Rev. James W. Ashton, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who entered upon his duties as rector April first of the same year. His pastoral duties marked a new era in the history of the parish. On August 6, 1888, the corner stone of the pres-

ent church was laid, with impressive ceremonies, and on June 17, 1890, it was consecrated by Bishop Coxe. At that time the wardens were C. P. Moulton and John Sloane, and the vestrymen were George V. Forman, N. V. V. Franchot, Frank W. Higgins, C. S. Stowell, E. M. Johnson, M. B. Bennie, Manley A. Blakeslee, and Horace A. L. Beardsley, the only survivors of whom are Mr. Franchot and John Sloane. Many additions and improvements have been made to the church property since then and the numerous memorials and gifts indicate the continued interest and generosity of St. Stephen's parishioners. The present rector is the Very Rev. Joseph Groves, who assumed his duties on St. Luke's Day, August 21, 1928.

The First Methodist Church was organized September 25, 1936, but there is little of recorded fact covering the subsequent fifteen years. Under date of May 24, 1851, there is an official notice of a meeting for the election of trustees, at which time the following were chosen: Judge James Brooks, Reuben A. Brooks, T. V. Oviatt, H. K. Montgomery, and Charles H. Thing. The site of the present church was purchased in 1852, and the First Methodist Episcopal Church, a modest frame building, was completed in January, 1853. When the present brick edifice was built in 1882, the old church was removed to Ninth Street, remodeled and used for a union Sunday school, becoming the Ninth Street Methodist Church later, and is now known as the Trinity Methodist Church.

A detailed and interesting history of the First Methodist Church was published in 1936 at the time of its centennial. This one hundredth anniversary was largely brought about by the enthusiasm and generosity of Dr. J. E. K. Morris. Many outstanding ministers have been sent to work in this particular parish, the Rev. L. B. Randall being the present appointee.

The fourth church to be organized in Olean was of the Baptist denomination, and its first resident pastor was the Rev. Mr. Tillinghast, who came about 1839, remaining two years. In 1843 this religious society was obliged to disband, but three years later it was reorganized by the Rev. S. W. Titus. At that time there were but twenty members, among the most notable being Deacon Seth W. Warren, Dr. Lambert Whitney, and Ephraim Simmons. The present site was purchased in 1860 and a church built which, however, was destroyed by fire March 1, 1883. The new stone church was dedicated in December, 1884. The Rev. Frank Houser, who has recently resigned on account of ill health, became pastor in July, 1922, and soon after, the new educational annex was constructed at a cost of

$50,000. The Rev. Shields T. Hardin has just accepted the pastorate of this church.

The Rev. T. McEvoy is reported as the first to have said Mass in Olean. Services were held in the homes of Catholic settlers at first, before the little church was built in 1853. The congregation began to increase and, when the Franciscans took charge in 1855, it was evident that a larger church was needed. This was opened in 1860, under the patronage of St. Mary of the Angels. In 1876 the Rev. J. J. Hamel was appointed the first pastor and continued as such until



(Courtesy of the Olean Chamber of Commerce)

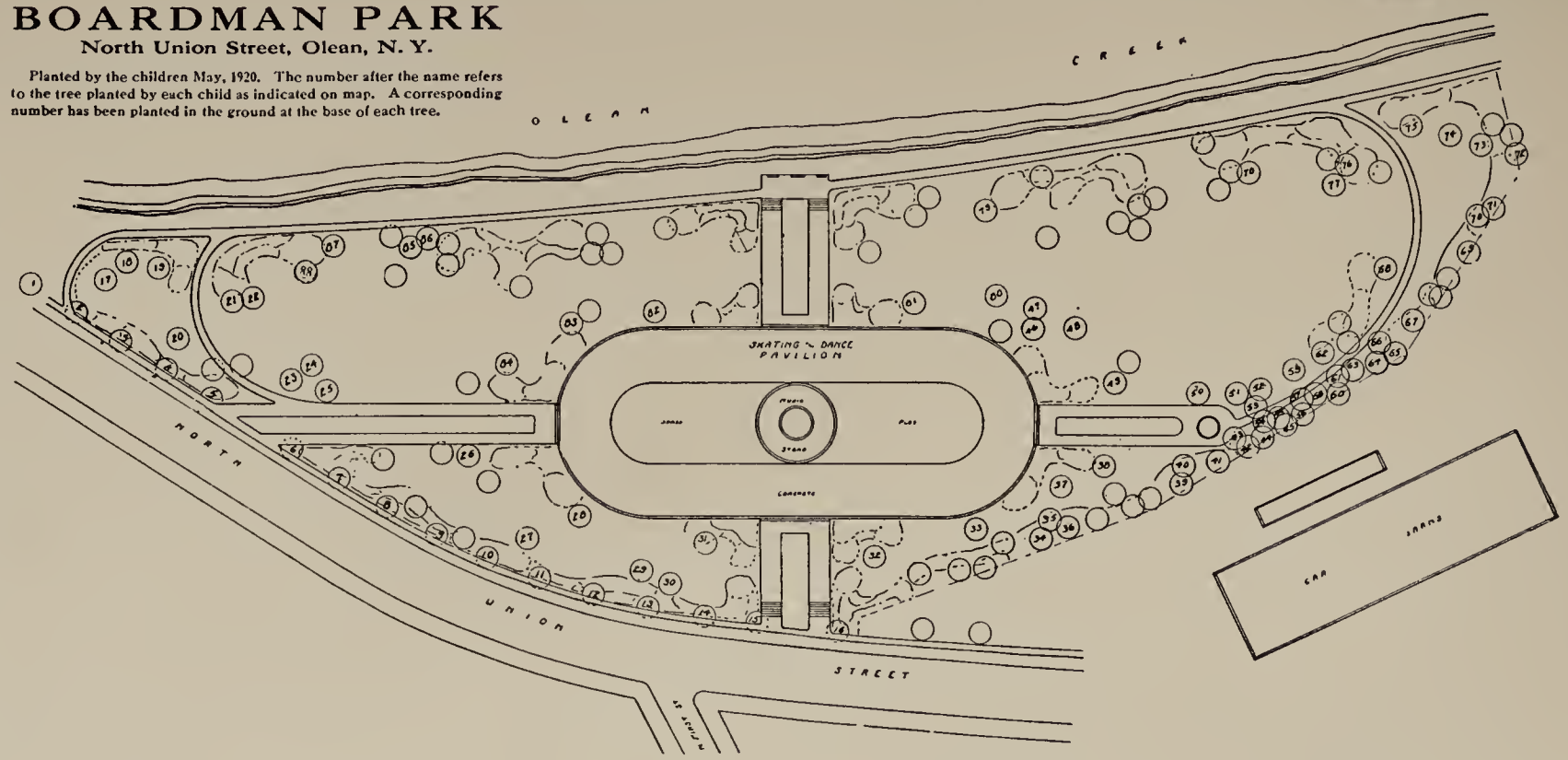
SHOWING TREES SOME YEARS AFTER PLANTING SHOWN IN OPPOSITE DIAGRAM

his death in 1912, when the Rev. Edward J. Rengel, the present priest, was appointed as his successor. He began immediately to plan for a new church and three years later the magnificent new edifice, the largest and costliest in the city, was blessed and opened for services on September 26, 1915, being consecrated by Bishop Turner in 1919. A set of Deagan chimes was installed in the east tower in 1929. In

BOARDMAN PARK

North Union Street, Olean, N. Y.

Planted by the children May, 1920. The number after the name refers to the tree planted by each child as indicated on map. A corresponding number has been planted in the ground at the base of each tree.



Allen, Nancy Marie..... 78
Allen, William James..... 16
Armstrong, Paula 44
Brown, R. Danforth..... 36
Cattaraugus Tribe 159, I. O. R. M. 55
Clements, Edna Mary..... 77
Clements, James Joseph..... 66
Crowley, Ann 11
Dimicco, Kathryn Rose..... 82
Dodson, Mary Goodwin..... 25
Donovan, Irene M. 24
Driscoll, James, Jr..... 86
Duffey, Robert Francis..... 83
Duffey, Mary Jane..... 84
Earley, Dorothy Marion..... 1
Ewing, Robert C..... 18
Ewing, Mary Catherine..... 19
Fitzgerald, Catherine M..... 70
Gibbs, William Anderson..... 42
Gilbert, Robert Bernard..... 20
Hancock, Douglas D..... 75
Heenan, J. Garrett..... 7
Heysel, Janet D..... 45
Higgins, Frank Wayland..... 57
Illick, John Rowland..... 15
Jobe Merritt 41
Johnson, Malcolm R..... 35
Koop, Burdette H..... 65
Lampe, Francis A..... 74
Lax, Robert S..... 33
Lennon, Margaret Angela..... 54
Loughlen, John J., Jr..... 71
Lynch, John C..... 17
MacDuffie, Wm. E., Jr..... 59
Mack Robert Donald 12
Mack, Roxana Louise..... 13
Maher, Francis J..... 23
Mallery, Kathryn B..... 72
Morris, Mary Louise..... 73
Morlan, Ruth Aleta..... 80
Murphy, Walter, Jr..... 29
Oakleaf, Priscilla 76
O'Brien, Betsy P. 8
Olds Mary Florence..... 34
Olean Chapter, D. A. R..... 21
Ordway, Marian 37
Page, Kingman 9
Page, Elizabeth 10
Pelton, John Edgar 60
Quinn, Patricia 39
Raub, Anita J..... 22
Reel, Joan Elizabeth..... 27
Riley, Jane Suzanne 85
Russell, Bradley 87
Saunders, Earl B., Jr..... 28
St. Stephen's Ch. School, 61, 62, 63 64
School No. 3 .....2, 3, 4 5
School No. 7....47, 48, 49, 50 51, 52, 53
Sermak, Edmund 14
Sheehan, Mary Virginia..... 68
Sheehan, John James, Jr..... 69
Sherwin, Catherine Mary..... 40
Sherwin Chas. Jas., Jr..... 38
Sherwin, John Cornelius..... 81
Smith, Charles Walter..... 67
Songa Council 199, D. of P..... 56
Spindler, Mae F..... 6
Sweet., Geraldine 32
Turner, Mary Julia..... 46
Van Campen, Marcus G., Jr..... 88
Wetmore Milner Wm..... 58
Williams, Gilford 79
Williams, Marion..... 43
Wright, Muriel E..... 30
Wright, Marilyn N..... 31
Yahn, Arthur E., Jr..... 26

addition to the church, Father Rengel has built a new school and convent.

In the early part of 1855 a chance meeting of Conrad Gross, of Olean, with the Rev. Ernst, of Eden, New York, was the beginning of the founding of the Immanuel Lutheran Church here, which was formally organized February 22, 1856. During that same year the corner lot at Laurens and North Fourth streets was acquired, and three years later the first church dedicated. This building served the congregation until 1887, when it was replaced by a larger wooden structure. The present pastor is the Rev. Martin Gallmeir, who took charge of the congregation in 1917. A new and attractive brick church has been erected recently, being dedicated April 4, 1938.

The First Evangelical Church, located on the corner of North Thirteenth and Washington streets, was started in 1880. The services were conducted at first in the German language, but gradually English was introduced, until today it is used exclusively. This church has contributed much to the cause of missions, and a number of young men and women have taken up religious work in other fields. The present pastor is the Rev. Michael Salmen.

B'nai Israel Congregation in Olean was started in 1882 with sixteen members. For several years they occupied quarters in the Haven Theatre Building, and later services were held in a hall over the Studholm Drug Store, the room being furnished through the generosity of H. W. Marcus. The present synagogue on South Barry Street was dedicated in 1928. H. W. Marcus has been the president and a tireless worker for the cause for over fifty years. Rabbi Aaron Manskop is now in charge.

The Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church is one of the stations of the African Methodist Episcopal denominations, which had its beginnings over a century ago. The local church is the outgrowth of a secret order led by Mr. Vanzant in 1881. The following year a petition, signed by a group of the colored residents of Olean, resulted in the organization of this church. Among the founders and officers was Thomas H. Barnes, now in his ninety-first year. Three churches have been built and all destroyed by fire. Another, located on the corner of West Greene and South Third streets, has recently been erected, the pastor being the Rev. M. Broomes. All denominations and many citizens have given generous aid to this religious group during its history.

The Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church began as a mission, but in 1891 a congregation was organized among the Swedish residents of

Olean. The church, on the corner of West State and Sixth streets, was built in 1906. The Rev. Lindgren is now pastor.

As has been stated, the Trinity Methodist Church was an outgrowth of the First Methodist Church, but became a separate corporate body in 1890, and has occupied a fine well-equipped building for several years. The Rev. W. A. Stackhouse is its pastor. Another mission, established by the First Methodist Church in 1887, resulted in the organization of the People's Methodist Church in East Olean. The first building was quite thoroughly demolished by a cyclone in 1892. The present church was dedicated July 16, 1893. The Rev. W. L. Hazen has been in charge since the last conference.

Prior to 1896 St. Mary of the Angels was the only Catholic church in Olean, but the parish became so large that it was divided, and another established in North Olean. St. John's Church was dedicated in November, 1896, with the Rev. Thomas Haire as the first priest. Father Gardner served as pastor for more than thirty years. Various assistants have also been associated with the work of this church. The Rev. W. B. Quinlan is now in charge of the parish.

The First Wesleyan Methodist Church of Olean came into existence in a cottage at Westons Mills, and services were continued in various homes for some time. The present church building on School Street, in East Olean, was erected in 1896. Many pastors have been in charge since then, the Rev. G. I. Norman serving at this time.

The First Church of Christ, Scientist, located on the corner of East State and North Barry streets, had its beginning in 1886. Meetings were held at first in the home of Mrs. Carrie R. Gale, on Laurel Avenue, and a Sunday school started in 1892, the regular church society not being organized until 1898. In 1906 the present church building was purchased.

The Free Methodist Church is a comparatively newcomer to Olean, having grown from an humble beginning in 1915. Since 1917 services have been held in its own building on the corner of Washington and North Sixth streets. The Rev. H. L. Dibble is in charge at present.

The Church of the Transfiguration, 1108 Walnut Street, North Olean, was built in 1902, and looks after the spiritual needs of the Polish residents of Olean, of whom there is a large group. A rectory and a school were built in 1908. The parish has grown from fifty to more than three hundred families, and there are over two hundred children in the school. The present pastor is the Rev. John Glazick.

When the first Syrians came to Olean, there was no church of their rite, and for many years their difficult circumstances and lack of numbers prevented organization. Being strong in their Catholic faith, they attended Mass in the other Catholic churches. Finally in 1908, the Rev. Francis Chemaly was authorized to look after the Syrians in the Diocese of Buffalo and, in 1912, he sent his brother, Father Nemat-Allah Chemaly, to Olean to conduct services twice a month. Five years later permission was given by the bishop to build a church for the Syrian Catholics, which was completed and blessed May 2, 1920.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. JAIRUS STRONG, OLEAN, 1893

The Rev. N. A. Chemaly has been pastor of St. Joseph's since July 19, 1924.

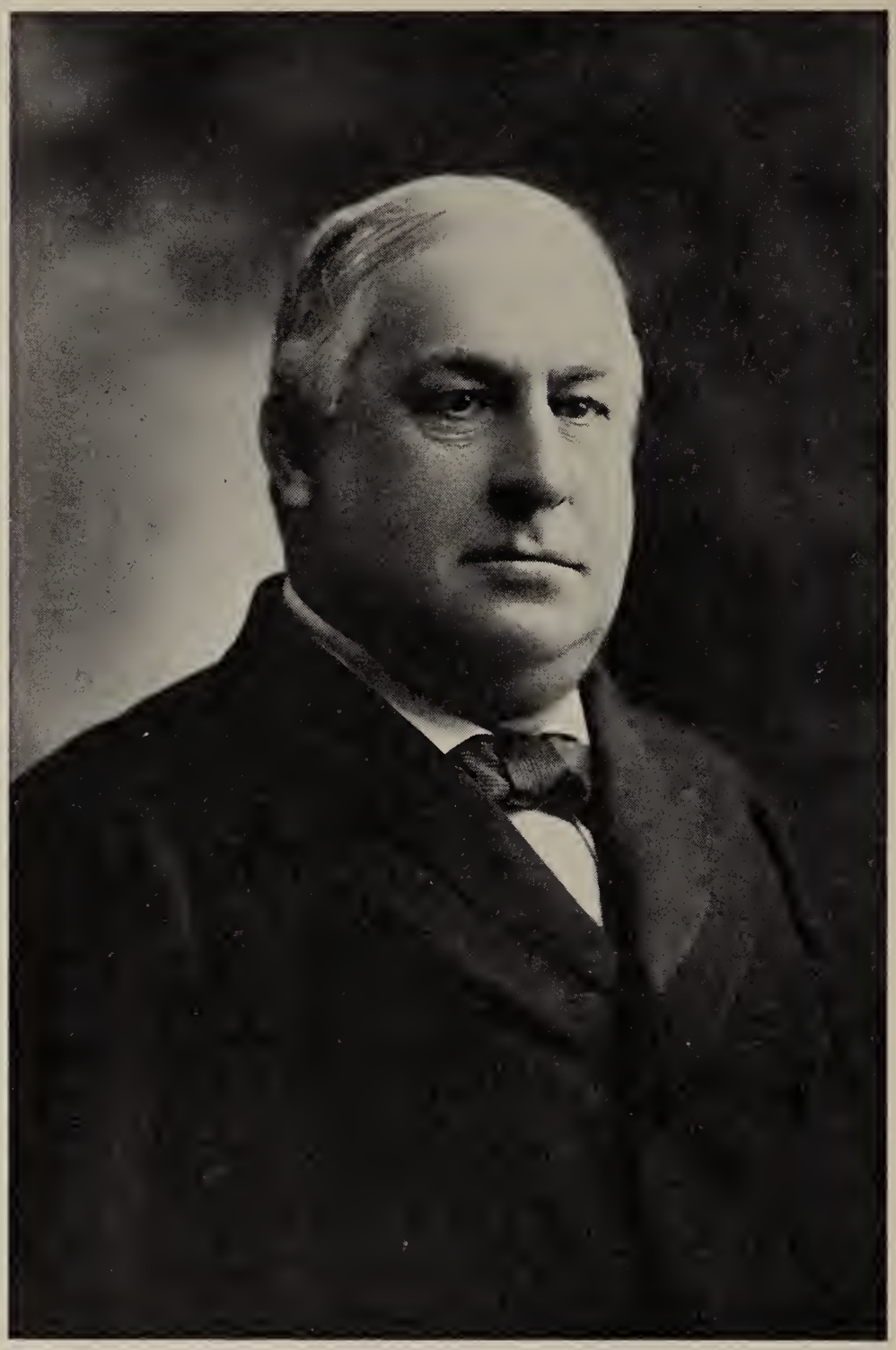
According to early records, the first school in the town of Olean was kept by a Miss Loranda Murray in what is now known as Pleasant Valley; this was in 1810. Two years later she married Simeon Hicks, who for many years was landlord of an inn to accommodate the travelers who streamed through this valley en route to the far West. In 1819 Miss Anna Carpenter taught school in an old log house, located on South Barry Street. It is said that the first frame schoolhouse was built by Seth Simmons about 1822, and about where School No. 3 is now located.

It is a matter of regret that fuller details cannot be found about the early schools and the school teachers who endured the rigorous associations of life in this new country. One name that survives is that of Rollin Pratt. He is said to have not only prided himself on the purity and correctness of his speech, but on the dignity of his deportment, which did credit even to a Chesterfield. Another much-beloved teacher was Miss Mary Lyon, who came here about 1870. She first taught in a one-room schoolhouse on Laurens Street, about where Dr. Loughlin's office is now located. This building was moved a few years later to North First Street, now No. 111, where for over a quarter of a century she gave hundreds of boys and girls their first instruction in the rudiments of reading, writing and arithmetic.

The early records of the Holland Purchase show that general promises of aid to education were given by the proprietors. The district schools provided the regular system of instruction here up to about 1851, when the pastor of the Presbyterian Church (at that time the Rev. Sylvester Cowles) headed a movement to establish an academy. A public meeting was called and an organization perfected, called the Olean Academy Association, which was incorporated by the Board of Regents on April 11, 1853. The first board of trustees was composed of Judge James Brooks, Olcott P. Boardman, Judge F. S. Martin, Dr. Lambert Whitney, Henry Dusenbury, Abraham Merritt, John Fobes, and the Rev. S. Cowles. A building was erected, on the site where the present high school now stands, and was soon opened with Professor J. A. Woodruff as the first principal. Unfortunately this edifice was burned a few years later, but was soon rebuilt. This academy flourished until October 3, 1868, when its property passed by sale to the Free School District, No. 1.

In 1881 the old wooden structure was replaced by a brick building at the cost of $25,000 which, in the course of time, became inadequate to the growing educational needs of the city. In 1936 the present million-dollar high school building was erected. The school system has become enlarged from time to time and now includes, in addition to the high school, eleven separate buildings located in different parts of the city, with 185 teachers and an enrollment for 1938 of 4,765 pupils. The present superintendent of schools is W. C. Greenawalt, and the principal of the Olean High School is Herbert L. Sackett. The board of education consists of the following members: B. L. Harris, president; Dr. L. J. Atkins, J. W. Randall, G. H. Swart, J. E. Lyons, Dr. L. F. Dietter, I. Wilson Miller, J. R. Page, and G. L. Purdy.

The public school system of Olean offers all of the various courses which will train the boys and girls for service in the home, the office



(Courtesy of the Olean Public Library)

GEORGE V. FORMAN

Donor, February 28, 1888, of the lot and building on the site of the present Olean Public Library.

and the shop, as well as developing the students' interest in literature and the fine arts, and equipping them for an intelligent participation in the increasingly complex social and political life of the times.

Aside from the public schools, Olean has a fine parochial school (Roman Catholic), established in 1889 by the Rev. J. J. Hamel, and located, at present, on the corner of South First and West Henley streets.

Westbrook's Commercial College, which was founded by E. D. Westbrook in 1882, is still a flourishing institution.

The Olean Library Association was organized March 25, 1871, and continued as such until March 28, 1889, when the name was changed to the "Forman Library," in appreciation of George V. Forman's generous gift of building and grounds, also a considerable sum of money. For nearly a score of years it remained a subscription library. During 1907 the matter of making the library a free institution was discussed and measures taken to transfer the property to the board of education, school district, No. 1, which body appoints the five trustees and is also represented on the governing body by the president of the board of education and the superintendent of schools. This reorganization being completed, the Olean Public Library was opened for service January 14, 1907. It soon became evident that larger quarters would be needed, so correspondence was begun with Andrew Carnegie, which resulted in his contributing $40,000 for a new building.

This was formally opened on May 23, 1910, and since then has been an active force in the cultural and civic needs of the community. The last report presented by the librarian, Miss Maud D. Brooks, showed there were over 30,000 volumes on its shelves and 7,011 registered borrowers, with a total circulation and use for the year of 140,654 volumes. The following are the members of the present board of trustees: Rev. Joseph Groves, president; A. F. Schaumleffer, vice-president; N. V. V. Franchot, treasurer; John F. Andrews, secretary; John C. Armstrong, together with B. L. Harris, president of the board of education, and W. C. Greenawalt, superintendent of schools.

As has already been stated, the Olean House, the city's leading hotel, is located on the site of the old "Coffee House," opened over a century ago. Other landlords who succeeded Judge Martin include John K. Comstock, Mark Ball, "Abe" Yost, Martin Moore, later proprietor of the "Moore House," long located on the corner, now occupied by the post office. Then in 1873, George Van Campen bought the hotel and remodeled it. In 1886 he enlarged it, by building a four-story brick addition on the north end, and made further improvements. He was succeeded by his two sons, James K. and

George Van Campen. When they retired, the hotel was leased to W. K. Hotchkiss, who soon died, the management again changing hands. Later the Olean Improvement Company purchased and rebuilt the whole structure and leased it to H. S. Sartwell, who came to Olean in 1887, and remained as proprietor and popular host until his death in 1911. For several years the Olean House was under various managements; then in 1915, the property was purchased by H. W.



(Courtesy of Olean Public Library)

ORIGINAL FORMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY, OLEAN

Marcus, who has since made extensive improvements, bringing its equipment and service up-to-date. It is managed at present by two of his sons, Mendel and Leon. The history of this hostelry is contemporaneous with this locality, changing and growing with the needs of the times.

Although the village of Olean was always a point of importance in the western section of the Empire State, with the completion of the Erie Canal there came a severe set-back to the hopes of the sanguine

Oleanders, though the settlement did not become a deserted village. When it no longer became profitable to shelter and provide supplies to emigrants, new industries sprang up. Lumbering became of first importance, enormous quantities of logs and timber being rafted down the Allegheny every season for many years. But so much timber was cut down that the magnificent forests of pine were destroyed and, deprived of this source of supply, the waters of the river became, year by year, more shallow and less fitted for navigation. The government did attempt to make the Allegheny River navigable from Olean to Pittsburgh and, along in 1830, a steamer made several trips between these two points, but nothing of any permanent value was accomplished. The building of improved roads about this time again opened up this region for settlement and supplied a means for reaching the markets in the central and eastern parts of the State. Great expectations were again raised by the talk of a branch of the Erie Canal to be built from Rochester to Olean. A survey was begun in 1834, but this waterway was not completed until 1856. This was called the Genesee Valley Canal and extended through Olean to Mill Grove, seven miles beyond, where it was connected with the river. The project was never profitable and finally was abandoned in 1878. The towpath was later utilized to a large extent by the Rochester Division of the Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad.

The vital relation of transportation facilities means much to any locality, so the next important event in the history of Olean was the completion, in 1851, of the Erie Railroad. This gave a new impetus to every branch of business, and it was about this period that many of the best known and influential citizens located here. Among these, whose names are closely identified with local history, who came to Olean during the next quarter century are N. S. Butler, R. O. Smith, C. V. B. Barse, John Pelton, W. H. Conklin, F. R. Eaton, Charles Gillingham, S. R. Homer, James F. Johnson, D. H. Bolles, S. K. Hale, F. H. Oakleaf, Eli Brickell, Isaac S. Wands, W. H. Mandeville, Max Mayer, D. L. Smith, C. S. Stowell, Frank Stowell, F. H. Thing, George Van Campen, J. B. Strong, Rufus S. Page, Dr. J. L. Eddy, C. S. Cary, James Kelsey, Jacob Coss, the Myrick brothers, H. W. Moore, W. B. Pierce, Charles Dotterweich, H. C. and M. A. Blakeslee, A. Merritt, Henry S. Morris, Amos Bronson, L. F. Lawton, H. Schutz, and Dr. M. L. Follett.

Just fifty years after its founding, the village of Olean was incorporated in 1854. The trustees elected at the first meeting held in 1855 were Dr. Lambert Whitney, C. V. B. Barse, F. H. Thing, and

John K. Comstock; while Enos C. Brooks was appointed clerk. The original charter was amended and revised from time to time until 1892, when a new charter was granted and the city of Olean came into being on April 25, 1893. The Hon. F. W. Kruse was chairman of the citizens' committee which prepared this new charter. The following have served as mayors during the years indicated:

N. V. V. Franchot, 1895-96-97; G. H. Strong, 1898-99; J. H. Waring, 1900-01; P. C. Foley, 1902-03; J. H. Waring, 1904-05; E. D. Westbrook, 1906-07; W. H. Mandeville, 1908-09; P. C. Foley, 1910-11-12-13; W. H. Simpson, 1914-15; Foster Studholme, 1916-



RESIDENCE OF NICHOLAS V. V. FRANCHOT, OLEAN, 1893

1917-18-19; W. Z. Georgia, 1920-21; P. C. Foley, 1922-23; G. H. Pierce, 1924-25-26-27-28-29; E. C. Vedder, 1930-31; Albert J. Carr, 1932-33; F. W. Forness, 1934-35-36-37; John F. McAuliffe, 1938-1939.

With the building of the Erie Railroad and the completion of the Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad, Olean managed to hold its own as an industrial center in this county until the centennial year, when new life was infused into its business and new elements of enterprise and progress were developed by the opening up of the Bradford oil field in 1876 and 1877. From a quiet village, Olean soon became a growing and thriving town, the population increasing from 899 in 1850 to 3,103 in 1875, and more than doubling in numbers

during the next decade. The establishment of a large oil refinery by the Standard Oil Company was followed by several tanneries and manufacturing plants. Olean is credited as being the first place where natural gas was used for commercial purposes and it was not long before the entire community was using gas for fuel and lights. The Keystone Gas Company commenced operations June 1, 1881. Water and sewer systems were soon installed and street cars were running on



MASONIC TEMPLE AND POST OFFICE, OLEAN, 1893

the main thoroughfare in 1880, the State Street line not being built until 1891.

Soon streets began to be paved, better sidewalks constructed, new residences, stores, schools and churches were needed, and a keener interest was developed in civic affairs. Any attempt to give a list of the business and professional men, whose industry, ability, vision and civic interest have been the means of developing Olean, would be like compiling a directory. Even a selective list, with brief biographical sketches, cannot be included in this chapter, though undoubtedly some

will be named in connection with various activities. One of the most distinguished citizens of Olean, however, was Frank Wayland Higgins, born August 18, 1856, in Rushford, Allegany County. In 1879 he came to Olean to take the management of his father's extensive business investments. He was an active Republican and soon became chairman of the county committee and was a member from the Thirty-fourth Congressional District of the convention which nominated President Harrison, doing effective work in the campaign of 1888. He was elected State Senator in 1894, which office he held until 1902, when he became Lieutenant-Governor. He served as Governor of New York State during 1905-06. His death occurred February 12, 1907.

In 1912 the main building of the Olean General Hospital was given in his memory, by his sister, Mrs. Clara A. H. Smith; and three years later, the Nurses' Lodge was built by Mrs. Higgins as a memorial to her eldest son, Orrin Thrall Higgins.

Olean has long been the commercial center of Cattaraugus County. The business houses are remarkably well equipped for wholesale and retail trade and have an extensive patronage from the surrounding territory. The banking institutions of Olean have had long and honorable careers and occupy splendid and substantial buildings. The first Board of Trade was organized October 6, 1887, with J. V. D. Coon as president; L. E. Chapin, secretary; and C. S. Stowell, treasurer. Through the efforts of this body many new industries were located here. In 1906 this organization was followed by the Chamber of Commerce, the present officers of which are: Dr. J. E. Sweeney, president; I. Wilson Miller, vice-president; Mark J. Hannon, treasurer; and Walter O. Howe, executive secretary.

Among the firms that have been conducting business in Olean for many years, those listed are the oldest: W. H. Mandeville Insurance Company, established in 1860; the Otto Miller Jewelry Company, which has been doing business in the same locality, opposite the city hall, since 1862, now owned by the third generation; F. H. Oakleaf Company, booksellers and stationers, has been here since 1878; W. H. Simpson, Incorporated, plumbing and heating contractors, was established in 1878 by the late W. H. Simpson, and a year later moved to the present location on Union Street; the Willard Music House has occupied its present site since 1881; Riley and Wands opened a retail store here in 1882, and the wholesale grocery house in 1887; Bradner's, Olean's largest department store, and the successor of the George Adams Company, has been doing business here since 1887;

and the A. E. Ewing Company (formerly Miller Hardware Company) began business here in 1898 in the same location that it now occupies; P. J. Spindler has been conducting a real estate office since 1895, and G. R. Daniels, jeweler, also opened his store in 1895; F. R. Brothers drug store, which succeeded the J. V. D. Coon drug firm in 1898, still occupies the same building; Hannifan and Maroney, shoe dealers, was founded in 1900; F. W. Forness was the pioneer in the



(Courtesy of the Olean Chamber of Commerce)

FRONT STREET, OLEAN, BEFORE PROTECTION; AT THAT TIME PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS CONSISTED OF SIDEWALKS BUILT ON STILTS

automobile field, in 1902; Hickey Brothers has been located here since 1904.

Since the beginning of the twentieth century there have been many changes in business and industrial firms. Large scale production, with its great saving in labor, has given people everywhere more leisure; in consequence many parks and playgrounds have been established, club houses built and a fine stadium, opened in 1928, through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. John Bradner. Three motion picture houses and a

radio station (WHDL) bring added pleasure to many of our citizens. No city in the State of similar size, surpasses Olean in the matter of natural location, climate, in public improvements and business facilities. Union Street, the main thoroughfare, is an unusually wide, well-paved avenue, with handsome and up-to-date business blocks. Among the public buildings in the city are several fine schools, over twenty churches, a State Armory, a public library, three hospitals, a community health center, a country club, with a nine-hole golf course, and a Young Men's Christian Association.

Many of the clubs, social, fraternal and beneficial, have fine headquarters. The oldest fraternal organization in the city is that of the Masonic Lodge, No. 252, which was formed March 20, 1852. The corner stone of the present Masonic Temple Building was laid September 27, 1892, and dedicated November 16, 1893. The directors at that time were F. W. Higgins, E. M. Johnson, C. S. Stowell, G. H. Strong, A. T. Eaton, and J. A. Corbin. Since then many improvements have been made.

The present Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Olean Lodge, No. 471, was chartered August 22, 1878, and has owned the building it now occupies at No. 229 North Union Street, for many years.

The City Club, the oldest social club for men in the city, was organized December 22, 1883, with N. V. V. Franchot as president, which office he held for fifty years. Its club house on North Street, is one of the city's landmarks.

The Young Men's Christian Association was chartered March 10, 1886. P. H. Griffin is listed as the first president. The building, now occupied by this organization, was erected in 1909. The officers for the current year are C. E. Carpenter, president; Dr. F. K. Kline, vice-president; J. M. Hodges, secretary; J. H. Davidson, treasurer; and Robert C. Fisher, general secretary.

Just sixteen years after the Knights of Columbus came into being, the Olean Council, Knights of Columbus, No. 338, was organized, May 8, 1898. The building on Hamilton Street was opened April 27, 1923. Its charter and membership rolls, contain the names of many well known and prominent citizens.

The Olean Lodge, No. 491, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was established here on June 8, 1899, and three years later purchased the site of its present club house on West State Street.

The Olean Aerie, No. 616, Fraternal Order of Eagles, was organized on February 14, 1904, and its club house on West Sullivan Street, was erected in 1926.

On June 9, 1909, the Moose fraternity was organized, and its headquarters is on the corner of West State and South First streets.

The local Italians formed a Christopher Columbus Lodge, Sons of Italy, in 1911, and on October 12, 1932, they dedicated their new headquarters on North Union Street.

Many of these organizations have women's auxiliaries. The oldest woman's club in the city is the "Travelers' Club," organized in



(Don Seelé, Photographer, Courtesy of the Olean Chamber of Commerce)

FRONT STREET, OLEAN, AFTER PROTECTION

This is part of two thousand acres within corporate limits of the city similarly protected, reclaimed, and developed.

1884, and the next is the Olean Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, which was formed December 14, 1897. The Country Club (first known as the Hamilton Country Club) was opened in 1898 and, after the death of F. L. Bartlett—for many years its president and generous benefactor—it was renamed the Bartlett Country Club. In fact, club life in Olean is sufficiently varied to please all tastes.

The most pretentious project ever staged by the city was the construction of dykes along the west side of the creek and the north side of the river, for the protection of property against floods. This flood abatement system was undertaken in 1916, under the direction of the New York State Superintendent of Public Works, who was represented by a commission of which E. W. Fitzgerald was president; A. I. Williams, vice-president; F. L. Bartlett, treasurer; E. H. Wright, secretary; and T. H. Quinn. The cost was in the neighborhood of $500,000, but untold millions have been saved since its completion.

Long before all of Olean's advantages were known, it acquired the appellation "City of Natural Advantages." The fact that it is located at the end of the backbone of the Allegheny Mountains and at the junction of three widely diverging valleys, makes it a natural passageway and on account of its altitude (about 1,450 feet above sea level), its air is invigorating and healthful. The discovery of oil, gas, stone and salt in the later years and the fertility of its soil, making the lands in the surrounding country productive for farming and grazing, are a real basis for its claims. Reference should be made also to the beautiful chain of hills along the Allegheny River, against which the city nestles; and to Flat Iron Rock and Rock City a few miles distant, which are among the unique scenic features of New York State.

The prophetic vision of the founder of Olean and the significance of the name he coined, have been realized to a large extent during the past sixty years. Olean has become the largest and most important community in Cattaraugus County. The city government is alert and competent and its Chamber of Commerce active and keenly observant of business conditions. In consequence, it has become the industrial and trading center of a large area. Olean's citizens take pride in its educational facilities, its financial stability and its civic enterprise, and thus the city offers many advantages as a place of residence.

CHAPTER XLII

History of Salamanca

By Charles E. Congdon

Although the name of this town and city, formed from a hybrid of Arabic and Latin, means "The Ancient," the settlement here was late, compared to the time when other places in the county were first inhabited by white people. As to the name, you will note that the S is excrescent, the m is added for euphony and the common trick folks have of saying "Salamanica" has some justification in the derivation from antica.

The delay in settling so desirable a location was due to the reservation of the land here by the Indians when they gave up their right of occupancy at the so-called Treaty of Big Tree made September 15, 1797. This grant to Robert Morris provided for various reservations and "also one other piece or parcel of forty-two square miles at or near the Allegenny River."

In the month of September, 1798, the reservation was laid out by Richard Stoddard as it now exists. The lands north of the Allegheny River were opened to sale and settlement. Towns were formed and villages grew up in the wilderness, but the land along the river remained unoccupied, except for a few scattered Seneca homes. Even a careful search of histories will not furnish many references to this location before 1800. There is not much foundation for the claim that Colonel Daniel Brodhead came any farther than Cold Spring on his expedition from Pittsburgh in 1779. Samuel Maclay's journal of his trip up the Sinnemahoning to Port Allegany and thence down the river in 1790, makes no reference to this place. Colonel Thomas Proctor came through here from Philadelphia to visit Cornplanter in 1791. He stayed over night at the Great Bend we now call Horseshoe, but there was nothing for him to mention as to the place where Salamanca is.

The old Indians say that Bucktooth lived inside the present city limits before the reservation was surveyed. His home was on the north bank of the river, just east of the west city line. Bucktooth was his only English name. Bucktooth Run and the original settlement at West Salamanca were named from him.

Obed Edson, in his account of Brodhead's expedition, says that at that time there was "at the mouth of Little Valley Creek, the village of Bucktooth." This must have been an Indian settlement.



(Photo Courtesy of the John C. Krieger Collection)

PROMINENT CITIZENS OF SALAMANCA

Taken at Rock City on the occasion of the opening of the trolley line from Olean to Salamanca about 1905

The Bucktooth Mills, which Philip Tome mentions at page 204 of his "Pioneer Life" were at the foot of Bucktooth Island, a little west of the city line. This sawmill was built by Guy C. Irvin, about 1830.

Dwight Jimerson's story about Bucktooth should be preserved. Dwight was born in 1861. He lives on the River Road just below Salamanca. His mother was Affie Jimerson. She was a sister of King Tandy. Her mother was a daughter of old Bucktooth and a sister of Sim Bucktooth. When Dwight was about eighteen he was gathering firewood with two younger brothers along the north bank of the river

near the west city line and found some human bones. They told their mother where the bones were and she said: "That must be my grandfather Bucktooth." They went back and found his whole skeleton. Affie said she could remember her grandfather when he was an old man and could not see much. He had just one tooth left. He was only four feet tall. With the bones they found an old brass buckle with U. S. on it. She said Bucktooth was in the War of 1812 and used to wear that on his belt. When they found the skull it had only one tooth in it, but that fell out going across the river in a boat. They laid all the bones together, and they made a skeleton just about four



(Photo Courtesy of John C. Krieger Collection)

ISLAND PARK, SALAMANCA, ABOUT 1906

feet long. Dwight made a box coffin, his mother lined it with cloth, they put the bones in it and the buckle; they got a speaker from Cold Spring and buried Bucktooth again on the south side of the river, with his descendants.

The State Road through the reservation from the Pennsylvania State line to Vandalia, was authorized by Act of the Legislature, May 4, 1841. It was laid out four rods wide. The survey is in Book 2 of Miscellaneous Records of the county clerk's office at pages 196-99, and is dated May 10, 1845. It mentions a good many places up and down the river, but has no reference to anything at Salamanca.

Later they called this road the turnpike and now it is State Street, but it was always free.

The township of Bucktooth was laid out from a part of Little Valley, November 19, 1854. April 17, 1862, its name was changed to Salamanca in honor of the Duke of Salamanca, who helped finance the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad. November 23, 1869, the township was divided and Red House was taken off the south part.

According to Hamilton Child's "Directory of Cattaraugus County," published in 1874, the first school within the present city limits was taught in an old house which stood on the reservation line



(Photo Courtesy of John C. Krieger Collection)

ISLAND PARK, SALAMANCA, ABOUT 1906

north of West Salamanca and about twenty rods east of the road leading to Little Valley, in 1832, by Mrs. Malinda Chase. The first hotel was built in 1832 by John Boardman. It was kept by Adam Johnson and known as the "Bucktooth Hotel." John Boardman also had a store in 1834. The first frame building erected in that part of the settlement called Hemlock was built in 1863 by Elias Sauter. Peter Frank opened a grocery there in the same year and John Newton built the Hemlock Hotel in 1864.

The Hemlock Mills were built by Anthony Fay and Samuel W. Bradley about 1850. February 1, 1855, they obtained a lease from

the Seneca Nation for twenty years covering the land where the Hemlock Mills were, twenty acres on the south side of the river opposite the mills, five acres at the lower end of the upper island, which is the one about the bridge, and the whole of the island adjoining the mills, which we now call Sycamore Island, together with thirty acres more south of the river, and the right of rebuilding and enlarging the mills for the manufacture of lumber, shingles and lath to any extent which Fay and Bradley might think proper, and the right to rebuild the dam which ran across the river at the lower end of the island about the bridge; also the right to build a bridge across the river. By this lease Fay and Bradley agreed to build a house and barn on the land and surrender the mills and all the buildings to the Seneca Nation at the end of the lease. In 1864 this lease was extended for twelve years and in 1880 it was renewed for another twelve years upon payment of $1,000 bonus and an annual rental of $215. In consideration of the $1,000 bonus, the nation released all claim on the buildings and machinery. In 1892 the nation granted a ninety-nine year lease for substantially the same premises.

John B. Shaw, who was born in 1842 and died at Jamestown, New York, in 1929, wrote his recollections of "When Salamanca Was Young." His paper was published by the Salamanca Masonic Lodge, March 24, 1925. He came to Great Valley in 1856 as operator on the Erie and in 1862 moved to Salamanca as operator and ticket agent.

The following are excerpts from his sketch:

My earliest recollections of the Erie road date back to 1852, when I was 10 years old; and when my father moved his family from New Hampshire to Olean, where he was station agent.

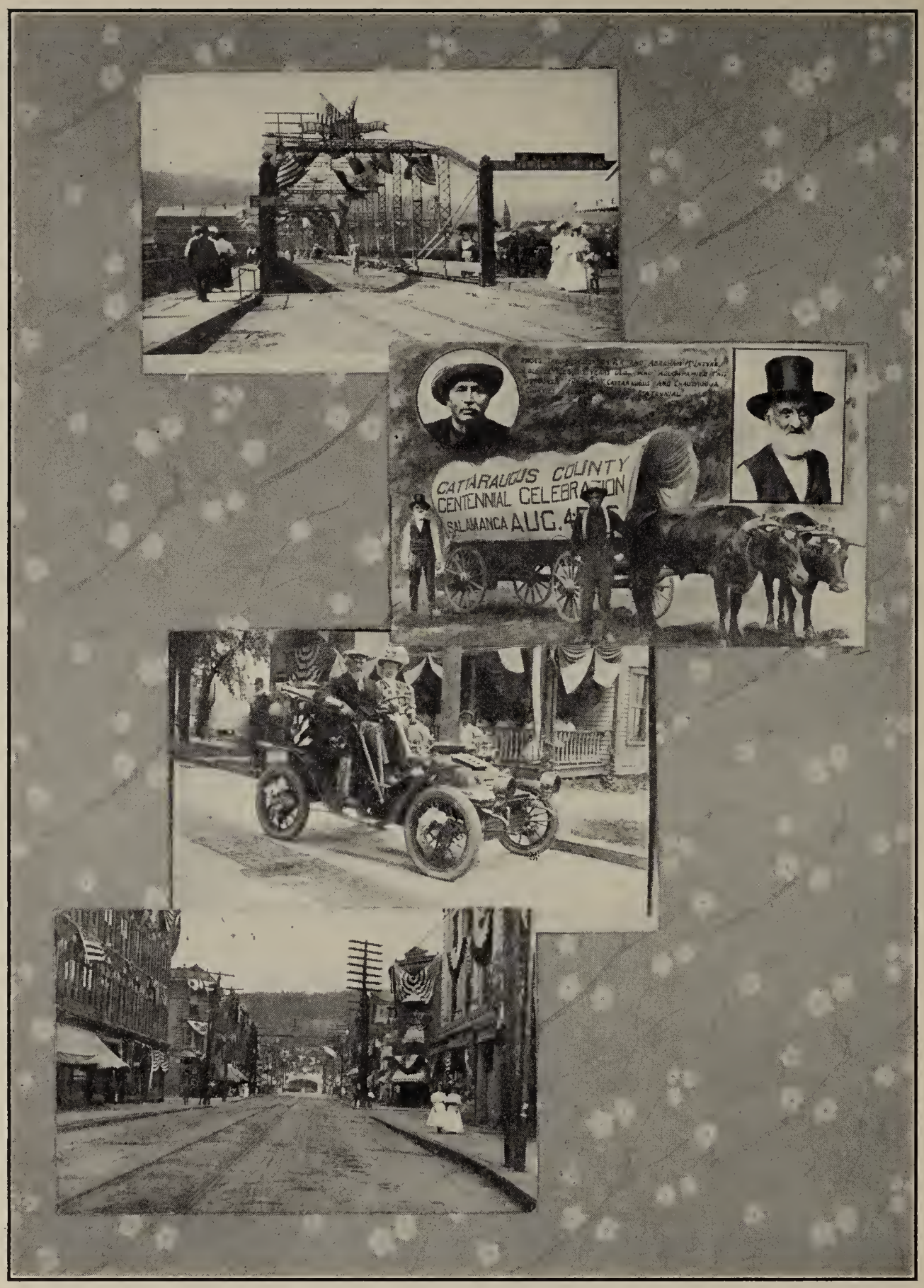
I learned telegraphy three years later, by hanging around the telegraph office evenings, as well as in the day time, when not in school.

The telegraph was less than 10 years old. The Erie road was the first to make use of it in the handling of trains; and at the time I learned telegraphy, the Erie had simply a one wire line. A second wire was strung soon thereafter as a through circuit from New York to Dunkirk.

Few operators read by sound. They were not encouraged to do so; for it was thought that the eye was more dependable than the ear—sight more reliable than sound; and so nearly every office was equipped with a paper registering instrument.

In 1856, when less than 14, I was offered the position of operator at Great Valley, if I thought I could do the work. Needless to say, I thought I could.

Great Valley had a good station, a comfortable hotel, a general store, and a stage line to Ellicottville, then the county seat. It was



(Photo Courtesy of the John C. Krieger Collection)

TOP AND BOTTOM: MAIN STREET, SALAMANCA, DURING CATTARAUGUS COUNTY CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION, 1908. RIGHT: THE PRAIRIE SCHOONER WHICH TRAVELED AROUND THE COUNTY ADVERTISING THE CENTENNIAL. CENTER: HON. HUDSON ANSLEY, 1908

the only telegraph office between Olean and Little Valley. My pay was $30 a month and I paid $12 for board. At the end of six months, I went back to Olean to school, and there I grew to manhood.

It is a long, long way back to 1856. The first railroad in the United States had been built only 25 years. The longest road under one management was the Erie, with its 460 miles of single track from New York to Dunkirk, without any branch lines. It was the era of hand-brakes, link and pin couplings and wood-burning locomotives.

Aside from local shipments of lumber and building material, the Erie handled large shipments of grain and farm products and live stock from the Lake regions of the Northwest. It came down the



(Photo Courtesy of the John C. Krieger Collection)

A. & G. W. RAILROAD STATION, SALAMANCA, 1865. SALAMANCA WAS THEN THE NAME OF THE STATION LOCATED NEAR THE MOUTH OF LITTLE VALLEY CREEK IN THE VILLAGE SUBSEQUENTLY KNOWN AS WEST SALAMANCA

Lakes in big propellers to Dunkirk, where it was transferred from boat to cars.

A full train load was 18 cars. The locomotives were Swinburn 10-wheelers, and 18 cars was all they could pull up Cuba Summit and Tip Top Summit. The cars were not built to carry a greater load than 10 tons, and as the bridges were of wood construction, any overloading was strictly forbidden.

Both passenger and freight locomotives were wood-burning, and had big flaring smokestacks. A cloud of sparks and burning embers would often belch forth; and a man was employed at every covered bridge to cross the structure after a train and extinguish any fire that might have caught in the timbers.

There were forests of hard wood trees in every town and wood was the only fuel. One of the stunts of getting a train over the road

was the "wooding up." There were frequent stops for wood, and where the next stop was a long run, the train men would throw wood on till the tender bulged and would hold no more.

The passenger train locomotive was of the Hinckley pattern with three controlling levers. It was a miniature little affair with polished brass trimmings and a shiny jacket. The best it could do and make time was to pull four cars. It couldn't make headway against adverse winds and grades, and was powerless in a snowfall of five or six inches.





BIRD'S-EYE VIEWS OF SALAMANCA, 1893

The passenger cars were poorly lighted by candles or oil lamps. The conductor carried a lantern to see the tickets. There was no steam heat on any cars, but instead the unevenly distributed heat of the wood stove, itself always a source of danger in case of accident.

The modern dining car was unknown. There were stops for meals at the station dining rooms, one of which was located at Olean.

There were no sleeping cars. The average speed of passenger trains was about 23 miles an hour. The express leaving New York

at 6 P. M. arrived at Dunkirk the next day at 1 o'clock, twice the time now required.

There were no air brakes. Concerted action, by a dazzling array of trainmen, was required to bring a train to a quick stop. The engineer would whistle for brakes. A brakeman in each passenger car would rush outside to his brake; the baggagemaster would run to his brake; the fireman would twist the brake on the tender, and the engineer would throw the reverse lever. The train would slow up with a jolt and a chucking back and forth till it stopped.

In 1858 or 1859, the Erie acquired a short road and gained an entrance into Buffalo, and thus started competition with the New York Central in taking the Lake shipments received at that point. Thenceforward Buffalo, instead of Dunkirk, was considered the western terminus of the Erie.

The port of Dunkirk for various reasons never met expectations; and when a junction with the new road to the West was established at Salamanca, it foretold the fate of the Dunkirk end of the road. For, as business developed, Salamanca gradually superseded Dunkirk as the terminus of the western division.

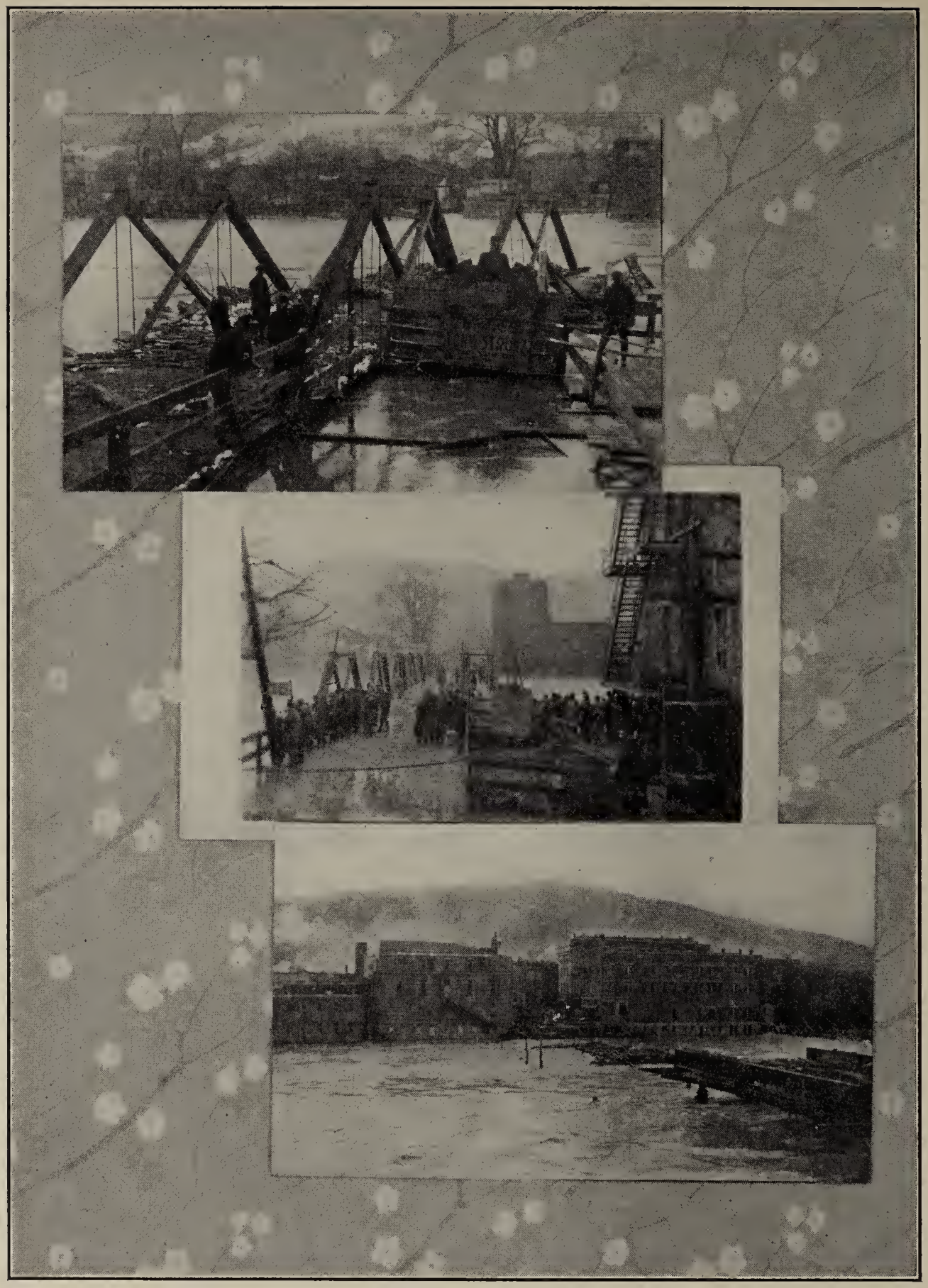
I was operator in the dispatcher's office at Dunkirk in February, 1861, when Abraham Lincoln passed through on his way to Washington. I was operator at Hornell from the fall of 1861 to the summer of 1862; and on the twelfth day of September, 1862, came to Salamanca as operator and ticket agent.

For the first few months, the last train for the day was the night express for New York. It started from Dunkirk at 4 P. M. and was met at Salamanca by a train on the A. & G. W. When the passengers and baggage and express were transferred and the Erie train pulled out at 6 o'clock, the doors of the station were locked and the place was deserted till the next morning.

I have pleasant recollections of my experiences at the West town, and of the friendships of its people. But I propose to dismiss the West town from any mention except to say that its activities and its mushroom growth faded away quickly when the railroad business was removed from its midst. Names and dates and incidents which were looked upon as large and portentous at the moment have vanished and are forgotten.

I purpose, rather, to tell you of the beginning of the Salamanca of today. The site of this city, when I first roamed over it in the fall of 1862, was known by the whimsical name of "Hemlock."

From North Mountain to the river, from the east end to the west end, the land was low and swampy and devoid of a habitation of any kind. It was unoccupied except by the Erie with its single track road and two wire telegraph lines; and except as an occasional train with speed unchecked, raised a whirlwind of dust, there was not a sound to disturb the quiet which prevailed.



(Photo Courtesy of the John C. Krieger Collection)

FLOOD OF MARCH, 1913, AT SALAMANCA, SHOWING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PRESENT MAIN STREET BRIDGE AND SHOWING REMAINS OF TEMPORARY BRIDGE WHICH WAS CARRIED AWAY BY HIGH WATER

The south side from the river back to South Mountain was sim ply waste land. The Hemlock Lumber Company occupied the bank of the river with a sawmill. That was all.

In the spring of 1863, the railroads acquired land from the Indians, one thousand feet in width, extending from Main Street west to the bend in the river; and late in the summer a gang of men drained the land and cleared it of a rank growth of bushes, vines and young trees.



(Photo Courtesy of John C. Krieger Collection)

MAIN STREET BRIDGE, SALAMANCA, ABOUT 1902

At about the same time the tannery company leased a consider- able tract of land and began the building of a tannery.

The beginning of activity on the part of big interests attracted the attention of individuals. The first house or home, aside from the Indian hut of John and Polly Lewis, was built on the north bank of the river, a little way above the bridge, in the summer of 1863, by Phin Stevens. He was an expert bootmaker at a time when men wore high top boots, particularly in cold weather.

There was a wagon road from the hemlock mill to the turnpike along the base of North Mountain, which was used for heavy loads

between the mill and Great Valley station. The land was low and wet and soft, and the driveway was planked with hemlock to make it passable. It was this wagon road that blazed the way to Main Street.

The first building along this roadway was a little grocery store, built by Peter Frank, of Killbuck, late in the fall of 1863, and located on the west side about opposite Maple Street.

The next building, and the second on the street, was erected by Fred Gaeng, of Olean, in the spring of 1864. It was a fairly good two-story frame building and was located next to the railroad. There was not, as yet, any demand for public accommodations, but by combining the sale of lager beer with the furnishing of luncheons and lodging, Fred Gaeng was favored with business from the very start.

In 1864, the Erie began the erection of the machine shop, the brick tank and the roundhouse. It kept a gravel train hauling gravel from Great Valley pit, filling the low places and leveling the ground for yard tracks and buildings. This work was continued throughout 1865. A passenger station was built in 1865 and stood unoccupied for a year. It was a one-story hemlock shack of a building. It was a distinct disappointment, and an imposition on the travelling public.

In the fall of 1866, the number of tracks in the new yard being sufficient to warrant making the change, the congested quarters at the Junction, on the bank of the river, were abandoned and removal was made to the new Salamanca.

There was little or nothing here to be proud of, and no accommodations for anybody. In these circumstances there was need of an adept to cater to the public. The late Andrew Krieger obtained permission of the A. & G. W. to occupy the company's land and built a house opposite the passenger station. It was a choice location and an excellent business opportunity. Andrew had met with success in running a restaurant at the Junction and now was prepared to do business on a more extended scale. In the plight the railroad employees were placed, they looked upon Mr. and Mrs. Krieger as their benefactors. So when the change was made, the Krieger belongings went along with that of the railroads. A large number, among whom were the passenger conductors on the A. & G. W., were furnished table board at the Krieger House and as many as could be provided for were given lodgings; and so satisfactory was the service their stay was prolonged indefinitely.

For the first few years Salamanca was little more than a hamlet. It became well known to the general public without much to back it up. The railroads advertised the place quite extensively. Among the headlines were these:

"Go West in a Royal Train, believe me, *via* Salamanca, and the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad, the great broad-gauge route to the Southwest."

For eastern bound passengers a big advertisement read:

"Take the New York and Erie Railroad from Salamanca, the broad-gauge route for the East."

When a westbound train on the Erie neared Salamanca, this announcement was made in each car:



MAIN STREET, SALAMANCA, 1893

"The next stop is Salamanca. Passengers for Jamestown, Corry, Meadville, Cleveland and Cincinnati, change cars to the Atlantic and Great Western. Passengers for Little Valley, Cattaraugus and Dunkirk, keep your seats."

This announcement usually was followed by a hustle and a gathering of hand baggage and a hasty exit to the other train. The more leisurely passengers would sometimes look about and evince a desire

to see Salamanca. Failing to focus their eyes on the right spot—for it was there—they would inquire of the station men, "Where is Salamanca?" and the answer usually was "It is out of sight."

Among the first to put in an appearance were the grocer, the butcher and the boarding house keeper. Frank Fisher was the first foreman of the Erie machine shop, and Robert Gunn was first foreman of car repairs. George W. Orange for the Erie and M. C. Witbeck for the A. & G. W., were the first freight agents. Edward H. Space, in 1869, succeeded Mr. Orange as agent for the Erie. Thomas A. Heller was express agent. William Farquharson and Ezeekel Kendell were the yard engineers. Jesse T. Fosdick, at a later date, was foreman of car repairs for the A. & G. W. William T. Fish was the pioneer merchant to carry a stock of dry goods and groceries, followed closely by Senear and Nelson, located on the north side of the railroad; and their clerk, Ralph Tinney, in the fall of 1867, was appointed the first postmaster.

The first druggist was J. B. Smith, and the first physician was Dr. Julian G. Smith. The first lawyer was Hudson Ansley.

The minister was quite as enterprising as any of the newcomers. He was early on the ground and found a field of labor well worth his efforts.

The first hotel was the Dudley House, which was built in 1868 by Charles H. Dudley, of Buffalo. It was a small three-story wood frame building.

From the very beginning, Salamanca was threatened either with prosperity or great danger. It was essentially a railroad town. The only industrial enterprises were the hemlock mill and tannery. Rumors would prevail of the leasing of the Atlantic and Great Western to the Erie; the taking off of certain passenger trains; the car repair work to be reduced; a cut in the wages of the men to be made, etc., all of which caused a feeling of uncertainty. But whether the event threatening the prosperity, or the danger came to pass, the town kept on growing little by little. Better houses were built, better and larger stores, the streets were improved and sidewalks were laid.

The appearance of the shack of a station was stagnating the town's growth. The people clamored for a new station. The railroad employees timidly seconded this demand; and at length the long-distance officials promised a passenger station of which we would be proud. In 1872, the weather beaten old depot—how well I remember the old ark—gave way to the iron-clad wind splitter.

The architect was designated variously as a genius and a mad man. It was condemned by some and lauded by others. We damned it or praised it, but always with a mental reservation that it was an improvement on what had gone before.

Perhaps there were better places than Salamanca in which to live, but there were no better people anywhere. Looking back from the viewpoint of today, I marvel how we got along under the primitive conditions then existing.

We did not have the telephone, nor the electric light, nor the "movies," nor flying machines, nor radios. I might add that we lacked even the vehicles and the good roads of today. We were dependent on old "Dobbin" and sometimes I think we were fortunate. It took longer to get anywhere, but we didn't get killed rushing by the car ahead or skidding into the ditch.



FIRST M. E. CHURCH, SALAMANCA, 1893

There never was a time when the people of Salamanca did not get fighting mad over politics. It was 50-50 between the two parties.

"Ad" Vreeland's drug store was headquarters for the Republicans and around the big coal stove all the disputed questions of the day were settled. There was nothing too intricate to be solved, however much the statesmen at Albany and Washington were puzzled.

"Hud" Ansley's law office was the gathering place for the Democrats, where they were always inspired with new hopes. If any still felt discouraged, they had only to call on "Tom" Heller at the express office, who always saw a Democratic victory a little way ahead.

The first body of Masons was Salamanca Chapter, in 1872, followed two years later by Cattaraugus Lodge, when it was removed from Little Valley to this place.

But as early as 1868, there was held here a gathering of Masons, the occasion being a visit from Robert Morris, of Kentucky, a noted Mason, and the author and compiler of the Eastern Star. He lectured in Flint's Hall to a crowded house of Masons and their wives. Many came from nearby towns; and at the conclusion of his explanatory address, the lecturer communicated to those present the Order of Eastern Star.

Robert Morris was about to leave for the Holy Land, and so it came about that Robert Macoy, of New York, a co-laborer in this line of work, succeeded him in disseminating the work of the Eastern Star and in establishing lodges in many sections of the country.

That which promoted good fellowship and brought the people out in large number, was dancing parties in Flint's Hall. If the people rejoiced to anything, they had a dance. If they wished to extend aid to an unfortunate, they had a dance. The dancing began at early lamp light. The music always the best. It was common to send to Dunkirk for Damon's Band. Quadrilles were danced the most, interspersed with money musk and the Virginia reel. The caller was loud voiced and put his calls into rhyme.

Salamanca forged ahead of neighboring towns in respect to sensations and the presence of noted persons. We had the Davenport brothers here. We had Commodore P. Vedder to orate on the Fourth of July. We had Horace Greeley for a day at the Krieger House. In 1867 we had General Phil Sheridan. He was not astride his famous steed 20 miles away, but was right here in Salamanca.

In 1879, the Krieger House was headquarters for one faction in the Sessions-Sheldon political fight, when Cattaraugus County was ablaze with excitement over the nomination for Representative in Congress; and when the little town of Humphrey controlled the situation, and each of its voters could demand a price for his vote.

Those were the days of Gould and Fisk, when the railroads carried more deadheads than paying passengers, and when it cost less to travel than to stay at home. Well, well! How different life is today!

My story of Salamanca of the early days would not be complete without reference to the strenuous and successful efforts to obtain ratification of the Indian leases. The lease situation, because of corrupt and illegal practices, was intolerable.

The problem for solution was this: What is the proper line of legislation or public agitation, or national action, to make the leases valid and binding upon the Indian and the white man alike?

It was supposed that the State of New York enact the necessary laws, and to that end an appeal was made to the Legislature. But it was found that the Congress of the United States alone could act in the matter. Then followed an effort to secure Congressional action, which alternated between hope and despair.

The Quakers of Philadelphia appeared at Washington on behalf of the Indians, and in opposition to any legislation. They opposed any alliance between the white man and the Indian.

At a later period, the beneficiaries of the Ogden Land Company appeared in opposition to the enactment of any law which might affect their interests.



(Photo Courtesy of John C. Krieger Collection)

MAIN STREET FROM MAPLE STREET, SHOWING BRIDGE, SALAMANCA

It is probably within the facts to say that the sense of uncertainty and perplexity, as to obtaining any action by Congress, was more manifest then than at any other time.

Finally the bill passed both houses of Congress in February, 1875, and became a law.

It is due to the memory of one who has departed this life to say that from first to last no man in Salamanca took a more decided part, or exercised a more decided influence in securing the passage of

this law, than the late Thomas A. Heller. Salamanca never had a better friend.

Since Salamanca was placed on a parity with other towns through the operation of this law, a vast population and industry have arisen where little had been before.

A review of Mr. Shaw's sketch will bring to mind many changes in Salamanca. The hemlock mills, which stood where Front Avenue joins Race Street, back of Senator Fancher's home, ceased to operate about 1890. Sycamore Island is one no longer. It was a natural island. The channel south of it was made into a race and it was closed and filled about 1905. The dam running from the west end of Palmer's Island above the bridge to the east end of Sycamore Island has been out for fifty years and now there is hardly a trace of it. The old tannery built in 1863 is yet in operation. An upper leather tannery was built by Fisher and Gaenslin, of Gowanda, on Rochester Street in 1900, and employed many men until it was closed and torn down about 1930. The Erie Windsplitter lasted until 1904, when the present brick station was built. The old Dudley Hotel, which had been greatly enlarged, burned down in 1913. The iron bridge had been taken out and they were putting in the present concrete and steel bridge, but it was not yet passable and the fire trucks had to go around by West Salamanca Bridge to get to the Dudley House fire. The bridge built at Bucktooth in 1876 was closed in 1937 and now in the fall of 1939 a contract is being let for a new bridge on the same site.

In 1880 nearly all the buildings on Main Street north of the river burned and many of the present brick buildings were erected soon afterward. A great fire south of the river in the summer of 1923 resulted in new buildings from Broad Street to the river. The building which Andrew Krieger used for a hotel stood just west of the present Erie underpass. Many years ago it was moved to the corner of Maple Street and Horth Alley, which is officially Horth Street, and torn down in August, 1939.

The city was incorporated by Chapter 507 of the Laws of 1913, which became a law May 14, 1913. The boundaries include the full width of the Indian Reservation and a small section at East Salamanca, which is not on the reservation. All the land in the city, except the section referred to at East Salamanca, is held under ninety-nine year leases from the Seneca Nation of Indians, granted pursuant to an Act of Congress approved February 19, 1875. The original

Act provided for twelve-year leases, but it was amended September 30, 1890, to provide for ninety-nine year leases, which commenced in 1892 and expire February 19, 1991. All these leases provide for a renewal for a further term of ninety-nine years. The laws of New York State have been extended over the lands in the city of Salamanca pursuant to authority granted by Congress. The leasehold right passes by inheritance and lands in the city are subject to all the general laws of the State of New York. Annual rentals under the leases are paid to an agent appointed for the Indians by the United States.

Although the settlement at Salamanca was commenced many years after the other towns in Cattaraugus County were established, the city has grown much faster than any other place in the county except Olean. The location gives it great advantages and its prospects for future growth are very favorable.

CHAPTER XLIII

History of Gowanda

Gowanda is appropriately named from the Seneca language "place among the hills," for it nestles in one of the most beautiful valleys of the Empire State, on both sides of the Cattaraugus. Its natural advantages were and still remain great; its geographical location exceptionally healthful. Like other villages it has had its periods of prosperity and adversity. Down the years Gowanda has not only held its place among the progressive and important places in the county, but has outrun many of its early rivals. When incorporated less than a century ago, it was little more than a hamlet on paper of no large area; its sister settlement, Hidi, taken within its boundaries thirty years later, being originally more important than Lodi (or Aldrich's Mills), first names of what is now Gowanda.

The settlement of the Gowanda region goes much further back than the incorporation of the village on August 1, 1848. The more or less permanent location of white people in what is now Cattaraugus County was initiated by John O'Bail, *alias* Cornplanter, Seneca Chief, friend of George Washington. In 1798 he asked the help of the Society of Friends, at Philadelphia, in the education of the Indian children. Three young Quakers came in response to the call and, while only one of them remained for any length of time, they opened the way for others of their faith.

On March 11, 1808, the County of Cattaraugus was erected by the Legislature, but actually did not function until 1817. By the original Act the entire territory of the county was included in the single town of Olean. Other towns were established during the following few years, Persia being erected by an Act of February 7, 1835. Historians usually credit Turner Aldrich with being the first permanent settler of the town of Persia, although Ahaz Allen is also named. Agreement is general that the year of settlement was 1810, and that Turner Aldrich and his family came then from Connecticut and took

up 707 acres of land on both sides of Cattaraugus Creek, including a large part of the present site of Gowanda. He built his log house on the east side of the creek and began to clear land. Ahaz Allen, of Vermont, with the later aid of John Russell, made a small clearing at Hidi. Both men built mills and made general improvements. The Allen sawmill, the first in Hidi, turned out much lumber for the pioneer settlers in the section. The first frame house in the town of Persia, erected not far from Hidi, was used for far more than a century. Ichabod Harding and Asahel Camp established the first wool carding and cloth dressing business in this vicinity, 1821; Joseph and Ralph Plumb opened a general store in 1823; a school teacher, Enoch Frye, of Concord, was engaged in 1818; Elnathan Finch, an itinerant minister of the Freewill Baptist denomination, held religious services as early as 1815. Balcom, Whitcomb, Wheeler, Stewart, West, Dailey, Timothy Smith, Bagby, Chaffee, Noah Cook, Spencer, Thatcher, Watenpaugh, Snyder, Nash, Milks, Averill, Ackley, Rainhart, Popple, Howard, all are names associated with the earliest development of Gowanda, and it is noteworthy how solidly American these names sound.

Typical of the New York State pioneer was the choice of a new name when, in 1823, Aldrich's Mills seemed no longer a sufficiently dignified title for the growing settlement. Ahaz Allen had his way in a town meeting and thereafter the hamlet and post office became Lodi. Noah Cook, when this decision had been reached, exclaimed: "If that is Lodi, this must be Hidi," and the names held. Allen evidently had in mind the then recent victory of Napoleon over the Austrians at Lodi, Italy, in 1796. It seems probable that Cook perpetrated a Yankee play on words.

The stress of growing pains led to the incorporation of Lodi as a village. A petition to the Cattaraugus County Court, dated April 24, 1848, received favorable attention and on August 1, 1848, Gowanda was duly incorporated. The corporate limits included 746 acres on both sides of Cattaraugus Creek. On September 23, 1848, the first election was held, and these officers chosen: Seth Field, James Locke, Francis Peacock, Daniel C. Amsden, Harlow Crandall, trustees; Hiram Palmer, Amasa L. Chaffee, Samuel Aiken, assessors; Joseph J. Benton, James H. McMillan, George S. Hickox, street commissioners; Samuel C. Springer, clerk; William H. Murphy, collector; E. W. Henry, treasurer; Brazilla Coon, constable; James Locke, president board of trustees. The village was reincorporated

in July, 1878, and the boundaries extended to include Hidi. The first election under this charter was September 2, and the officers chosen were: Silas Vinton, president; H. J. Brown, John Kammerer, Byron L. Kimble, trustees; Wells Fuller, secretary; T. F. Kingsley, treasurer.

No chronological account of the growth of Gowanda as regards business, industry, banking, professions or politics will here be attempted, and only briefly will be recorded some stories of the rise of such highly important features of community spirit and growth as schools, churches and other influential institutions.

Gowanda is justly proud of its educational facilities and school system. They have come a long way since Enoch Frye was persuaded to come to Hidi in 1817-18 to instruct a few pupils. In 1829, a school district comprising a large territory having been organized, it was decided "to secure a site for a school house within forty rods of Dr. Merritt's place." This lot was purchased from Alvin Bugby for $25 and a frame building 22 feet by 26 feet was erected, with a woodshed 12 feet square attached. This school was built by Asahel Camp for $120 and it is recorded that it was painted red. The first school was taught in this building in the winter of 1829-30 by a Mr. Leland for $13 a month.

In 1844, a new schoolhouse was built on the present site for $1,200. Fourteen years later the Gowanda District School was placed under the supervision of the Regents of the University of the State of New York and, on December 6, 1866, the Gowanda Union School and Academy was organized by a vote of 109 to 44. At this meeting, the first board of education was elected, consisting of David N. Brown, Nicholas Schaack, Joseph Plumb, Frank A. Newell, Harmon Kelley, Alexander W. Popple, William H. Stuart, D. C. Torrance, Lemuel S. Jenks.

At a meeting of the newly-elected board, held a week later, Dr. Holcomb was elected principal at a salary of $1,000 a year. Dr. Holcomb was followed for the year 1867-68 by T. R. Greene. For the year 1870-71, G. A. Bates was principal. Mr. Bates was followed by a Mr. Quinby, and March 22, 1872, F. A. Winnie was elected principal for the ensuing year at a salary of $1,200. At this meeting the school year was lengthened to thirty-eight weeks. In the minutes of a meeting of the board of education held August 16, 1872, there appears the motion "that we do not pay the lady teachers more than $9.00."

On August 9, 1874, at two o'clock in the morning, the school building burned. In 1875 it was decided to build on the old site. A brick building was erected at a cost of $18,000 and was first occupied in 1877. August 4, 1873, George W. Gillette was appointed principal at a salary of $900. Light is thrown on the question of teachers' salaries at this time by the action of the board of education in December, 1877, when C. C. Johnson of the board was authorized to hire Miss Lucy Sherman to assist "in hearing several classes recite and not to pay her over $2 per week and to get her for less if he can." February 4, 1878, the board of education passed a resolution reducing the number of members of the board from nine to six.

For twelve years after the organization of Gowanda Union School in 1866 the school had but four teachers and it was not until 1878 that it was found necessary to employ the fifth teacher. The school continued to grow slowly and in 1892-93 the faculty consisted of eight teachers under Charles A. Black, principal. He retained his position until his death in 1900. Mr. Black's successor was R. W. Hughes, who had charge of the school for six years until June, 1907. By 1899 the school had outgrown its facilities and on April 8 of that year a special school meeting was called and $10,000 was voted to build an addition to the old building. The sum voted was found insufficient for the work and on July 22 of the same year an additional sum of $6,000 was authorized. W. W. Miller took charge of the school in September, 1907, and served for four years. He was followed by H. N. Tolman, who was principal until the close of the school year 1911-12.

By 1914 the building would no longer accommodate the pupils and the board of education was compelled to rent two rooms outside. In 1916 the school had grown until it employed nineteen teachers and, because there were several grades housed outside, academic classes crowded into a basement not intended for classrooms, and other bad conditions existed, a special school meeting was held April 7, 1916, to ask for an appropriation of $66,000 for making an addition. The proposition was twice defeated. C. S. Babcock had assumed the principalship in September, 1914, and was here for four years. In the fall of 1917, A. H. Van Brocklin assumed charge, but left in the middle of the year; his successor was L. N. Freeman. Mr. Freeman resigned in August, 1919, and R. E. Baldwin was appointed supervising principal.

After the decisive defeat in 1916 of the proposition to enlarge the building, on account of the high cost of construction, no further

action was taken until 1920-21, when the board of education, consisting of William Krebs, president, J. D. Hallock, Mrs. Harry Arnold, William Miller, Joseph Murphy and R. N. Schaack, caused plans to be prepared for meeting the school needs. The plans having been approved by the State Board of Education, a meeting of the voters



M. E. CHURCH, GOWANDA, 1893

of the village was called for the nineteenth day of April, 1921, for the purpose of authorizing the expenditure of $174,000 for the proposed addition and alterations. The coöperation of the chamber of commerce was secured and plans were made to assure a favorable vote. It was at this time that Richard Wilhelm came forward with a

compromise plan which resulted in the erection, in 1922, of an eleven-room addition for the grades and kindergarten.

It was not until September, 1927, that steps were taken to remedy many intolerable conditions. At about this time a committee of public-spirited citizens met to consider what measures should be taken. The committee consisted of S. A. Neilson, William Krebs, F. J. Herdeg, Walter Wilhelm, Paul Miller, C. E. Sipple, C. J. Richards, Tom Mills, G. B. Temple, W. W. Welch, D. Dalrymple, L. Rew, John Gradisher, W. J. Wilber, B. J. Bury, J. R. Eggen, W. E. Beck, Mrs. W. R. Smallwood, Mrs. A. W. McLaughlin, Mrs. C. S. Bentley, L. Linz, Mrs. Louise Colburn, Frank Hager, C. J. Witherell, F. Schoos, Mrs. Earl Ross, Albert Markham. Backed by this committee, the board of education, consisting of C. C. Jones, president, Ralph N. Schaack, Ivory M. Lincoln, J. A. Metz, Mrs. Harry Arnold, Dr. H. C. Allen, caused a survey and intensive study to be made of various sites and of all proposed plans. They also viewed and made a study of a number of modern school plants in western New York.

On July 12, 1928, the board of education was ready to submit its proposition to the voters of the district calling for an appropriation of $250,000. The meeting was unique in that the proposition was carried unanimously. Later it appeared that an additional six rooms could be constructed at a very great saving over a separate contract, which would be necessary at an early date. Accordingly, at a meeting called April 23, 1929, an additional $50,000 was appropriated by a more than two to one vote.

The "new school" of almost a decade ago has proved adequate and fortunately was constructed at a time when such modern facilities were being introduced as a large gymnasium; an auditorium capable of seating seven hundred and fifty people; a three-room homemaking unit including a cafeteria; a two-room commercial department; chemistry and physical laboratory; a special room for classes in science, biology; and a library. Visual instruction by motion pictures, the use of the radio and further adjuncts to present-day education were provided for in this fine building.

The destinies of Gowanda have been directly and potently influenced by the religion professed by its people. Its churches are the outward manifestation of philosophies of life and basic ideals. The pioneers of the village and locality came from parts of the East where religious beliefs were strongly held and a meetinghouse was an essen-

tial center of the community. The Freewill Baptists claim priority in religious activities by reason of Elnathan Finch, itinerant preacher of the denomination among the few settlers of 1815.

The First Presbyterian Church, however, was the first church organized in Gowanda (Lodi). It grew out of a Sunday school started in the summer of 1825 by Joseph Plumb. As "The Presbyterian Society of Lodi," the first meeting was held on July 1, 1827, with twelve members. The first edifice was built in 1835 during the pastorate of Rev. J. B. Preston, its third minister. In 1842 the first church burned and a new one erected during the following year. In 1886, F. F. Spencer, of Chicago, and a resident of Gowanda, made it possible to entirely reconstruct and refurnish this edifice. A Men's Club was formed on December 5, 1910; a Young Women's Society three years later (February 28, 1914); and these with the Women's Missionary Society, Ladies' Needlework League, and Sunday school have all functioned long with great success.

The Methodist Episcopal Church has gained dignity and strength throughout the more than a century of its existence. In 1830 the Methodist Society of Gowanda held services in various homes and two years later became a regular charge of the Genesee Conference. Its first building was dedicated in 1834, and served well its purpose until 1861 when, under the pastorate of the Rev. William D. Buck, it was virtually reconstructed within. In February, 1888, a new edifice was completed. Wrote the pastor, Carl W. Hayes, in 1930: "The history of the church is a cross section of that of the community as a whole. From the little schoolhouse, seating not more than fifty, to the size and equipment of the present building is a picture of the growth and progress of Gowanda from a little handful of houses along a main street to the present size and prosperity of one of the finest and most beautiful villages of Western New York."

The First Baptist Church of Gowanda traces its lineage to the Baptist Church of Perrysburg, which was organized November 19, 1821, at Versailles, Cattaraugus County. The Rev. Sheldon N. Smith was the first pastor. Because it was the first religious society organized in the township, it received from the Holland Land Company a grant of a hundred acres. Without going into the vicissitudes of this body, it may be written that fire, a debt of only $30, and a scattered membership left the society without a meetinghouse until 1888-89, when it sold the farm it possessed and with added subscriptions was enabled to purchase the former Methodist Episcopal prop-

erty at Gowanda. This was dedicated on February 12, 1889, with the Rev. R. H. Colby as minister. The older society began with a membership of six, and never seems to have gone beyond a membership of twenty-six until it was located in Gowanda. It then grew rapidly and became a valued figure in the religious life of the community.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church owes its inception to Thomas E. Soules, who on a visit to Gowanda interested some fifteen members in a church of the denomination although there were then only three communicants of the faith in Gowanda. On January 21, 1894, a church service was held in the old Maccabees Hall, and on November 14, 1894, Bishop Coxe visited the new mission, baptizing three adults, three children and confirming eight people. Interest waned and in the fall of 1899 the mission was reorganized by the Rev. Charles A. Bragnon. By courtesy of the Baptist Church, services were held in its church until August, 1903, when, on November 7, of that year, the corner stone of their own edifice was laid by the Right Rev. William D. Walker, Bishop of western New York. A year later the church was dedicated by the bishop, and was considered one of the handsomest country churches in the diocese.

Trinity Evangelical Church was organized in 1887 by a number of Gowanda citizens, the majority of whom were of German descent, who met for the purpose of founding an Evangelical Lutheran congregation. On June 7 of that year the body was formed, and on July 10, 1887, the Rev. F. W. Possin was elected the first pastor. During the following year a church building was completed, which served the congregation into October, 1921, when extensive alterations were made, a basement built and a pipe organ installed. The service of dedication was held on September 30, 1923. Originally all services were conducted in the German language; for forty years they have been in both German and English. Over a very long period all classes in the Sunday school have been in English. Since 1908, Trinity Church has been a member of the Evangelical Synod of North America.

The first Free Methodist Church of Gowanda was founded May 25, 1865, and deeded to the trustees of the same denomination by Titus Roberts and Sally, his wife, from which the work went forward over the states to the Pacific Coast, and extensively through such countries as Japan, China and India. Bishop Walter A. Sellow, formerly of Gowanda, took the oversight of this large field.

The annals of St. Joseph's Catholic Church illustrate well the manner in which the missionaries of this faith penetrate all places and prepare the way for the establishment of churches when time and need demand. So far as is known the first Mass was celebrated in Gowanda in 1848, at the house of Daniel Hurdley by the Rev. Father



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, GOWANDA, 1893

Pamphilus, a Franciscan, and continued twice annually for about nine years. In 1857, Mass was read in the house of Patrick Shaw. Beginning in about 1887 Father Hogenfurst came from Buffalo monthly to attend to the spiritual needs of his people, and laid the foundations of the movement which after a great struggle eventuated, in 1898, of the appointment of a resident priest, Rev. John F. Tracy. Almost a

decade earlier a church had been built and later dedicated during the régime of Father Wilbur. In 1920, the Rev. J. E. Rochford assumed the task of caring for the flock, and was responsible for the sending of Father C. Tomiack, in 1923, as assistant to serve those who spoke other languages than English. In 1925 a parochial school was constructed. This was soon outgrown, and in October, 1928, removed to larger quarters.

The beginning of the Christian Science movement in Gowanda goes back to 1903 when a handful of students of this teaching started holding meetings in a private home on Erie Avenue. The number interested grew until it was necessary to use Crescent Hall as a gathering place. In 1912, an organized society was formed as a branch of the mother church in Boston. Since January 13, 1929, the group has had its own edifice in Gowanda.

A library usually plays an important part in the cultural life of the community, a fact that is especially true of the Gowanda Free Library. Almost from the beginning of the village, attempts were made to circulate books, customarily on the paid exchange basis. Not until the turn of the present century was an effective endeavor made to establish a free library. The Monday Evening Literary Club had long cherished this ideal, and on May 9, 1900, after having accumulated a small fund, met at the home of Mrs. Clara Vosburg and chose as trustees Mrs. Bertha M. Bard, Cora V. Pugsley, Hattie V. Fisher, Mary L. Lake, and Miss Mary F. Welsh. Application was made at Albany for a charter. On November 3, 1900, the library was opened in rooms over Temple's Shoe Store with Mrs. Vosburg as librarian. In 1905, J. S. Torrance purchased the Potter house on Main Street and gave it to the organization. He also donated the nucleus of a building fund, to which Theodore F. Welch, Miss Grace Johnson, and Mrs. George Swift and others aided by bequests. The library has always contributed valuably to the uplift of the community despite the lack of any large financial support. The Monday Evening Literary Club was founded in October, 1893.

Fraternal orders have long been popular in Gowanda. Phœnix Lodge, No. 262, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, received its charter on June 16, 1852, the third granted in Cattaraugus County. Its actual existence began on December 8, 1851. In 1856 the "Great Fire" destroyed its lodge rooms, which were immediately rebuilt and occupied in 1884, when on December 4 a new hall was dedicated. On October 9, 1912, a temple was formally opened. Gowanda Chapter,

No. 136, Royal Arch Masons, was organized in October, 1851, under the name of Forestville Chapter, No. 136, but since most of its members were from the Gowanda section, it was removed to the village in 1859. It went to Perrysburg in 1864, but returned to Gowanda in 1885. The present fine temple of Phœnix Lodge was acquired in 1922. The temple also serves as the home of the Gowanda Chapter, No. 404, Order of the Eastern Star, constituted May 7, 1907, and granted a charter on October 10 of that same year.

Relief Lodge, No. 511, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was instituted on October 13, 1847. On April 1, 1849, its number was changed to No. 61, and during the Civil War its activities were suspended. It was reorganized January 8, 1884, under its present number. In 1922 the Masonic Temple was purchased. Gowanda Encampment, No. 136, was reorganized October 1, 1924. St. Clair Rebekah Lodge, of Cattaraugus District No. 2, was instituted July 19, 1901. Naomi Circle was started by St. Clair Rebekah Lodge on January 1, 1920.

Gowanda Lodge, No. 1382, Loyal Order of Moose, was organized in 1915 by John R. O'Brien and James J. Gaffney, and was instituted by Congressman James M. Mead. It came to its present home on Buffalo Street, in December, 1925.

Gowanda Grange, No. 1164, was founded in 1909, and over a long period has grown strong.

The World War took its toll of Gowanda citizens and the village was notably successful in its civilian efforts to sustain the military forces abroad and at home. When the county and State settled down to the work of a return to normal activities and rehabilitation, there came the movement by the veterans of the conflict to continue the associations formed during the war and the endeavor to keep alive the spirit which fought to keep democracy a vital force in national and international affairs. One of the results of this movement was the organization of Gowanda Post, No. 409, formed in the late summer of 1919, the second post chartered in Cattaraugus County. The American Legion Auxiliary of Gowanda Post, No. 409, was founded October 20, 1921. Both have done especially fine work in local and county betterment.

The Boy Scouts have been established in Gowanda since 1911, or only a year after the organization was introduced in the United States. Scout Troop No. 41 (originally No. 1), has a record of which it is justly proud. Not until 1923 did Gowanda become interested in the

Girl Scouts. In that year eight girls banded together under Miss C. Ubel as captain; Miss R. Hawkins, as lieutenant; and Miss Margaret Ericson, as second lieutenant. The Girl Scouts quickly grew to be strong, and winners among this organization in the county.

The Gowanda Branch, Buffalo Chapter, of the American Red Cross, grew out of a meeting held May 16, 1917. Its original officers were: Dr. E. H. Mudge, president; Mrs. F. E. Bard, vice-president; Mrs. S. A. Nelson, treasurer; and Miss Edith C. Johnson, secretary. Along with these officers the executive committee consisted of Mrs. Fred Place, Mrs. A. W. McLaughlin, Dr. Herman Johnson, Dr. I. W. Livermore, Mrs. C. J. Richards, and the Rev. J. C. Buchanan. Since the end of the war work the branch has devoted much of its best efforts to public health activities.

Any review of the local institutions and organizations coming down from a sufficiently distant past as to be classed as historic, must suffer from omissions and inability to classify. The chamber of commerce, initiated in November, 1920, certainly made history, as have other business organizations. The Gowanda Fire Department also rates mention, if only because it dates from March 19, 1884, when it became both a service and a social "institution." The fire companies of that day included five: Erie Hose Company, No. 1; M. T. Hill Hose Company, No. 2; Gaenssien Hose Company, No. 3; Vinton Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1; and Dankert Hose Company, No. 2. On June 11, 1894, the T. D. Keyes Hose Company, No. 4, was organized and the W. R. Smallwood Hose Company, No. 5, on April 19, 1898, when the Dankert Company disbanded. Of course, the present fire department is thoroughly modern and motorized, and the grand old times of volunteer firemen conventions with their gorgeous parades, prize winning companies, hose cart racing and the like are almost forgotten glories.

Although the writer is not a journalist, he is inclined to rate the "Gowanda News" as both an institution and historic. The article in this work on "Cattaraugus Newspapers," by John C. Armstrong, Litt. D., gives full place to the story of Gowanda publications, since the "Lodi Pioneer" of 1827. The "Gowanda News" came into the possession of the Niagara Frontier Publishing Company in 1910, when it purchased the business of the bankrupt Iroquois Press, which had printed the "News" since 1905. The Niagara Frontier Publishing Company became one of the outstanding publishing concerns in southwestern New York under the leadership of the first group of

owners, Charles J. Richards, Francis E. Bard, Charles R. Hurley and M. C. Richards. Due credit must be given to the veteran Mr. Richards for making the press of Gowanda take its place alongside the schoolroom, the pulpit and civic and social organizations of the village in community service and progress. Further, because it has chronicled contemporary history, current information, local opinion and comment, it is one of the important sources of village, town and county history.

CHAPTER XLIV

Unusual Ellicottville

FROM CHARLES NORTHRUP

The village of Ellicottville is nestled in a fertile valley among the justly famous "Cattaraugus Hills" at the confluence of Great Valley Creek with its tributaries, Plumb Brook and Elk Creek. These streams intersect picturesque ranges of hills that rise to a height as high as five hundred feet above the valley floor, forming a broad natural town site. The smooth even contour of these hills, variegated with patches of forest, orchards, cultivated fields and pasture lands, is characteristic of Cattaraugus County and most pleasing to the eye of the beholder.

The history of Ellicottville really begins with the Erie Indians or the Nation of the Cat, as the early French explorers called them. The Eries, being a numerous and powerful tribe, became jealous of the rising power of the Iroquois Five Nations, who realizing that the Eries constituted a menace to the peace of their Confederacy, took umbrage and waged a war of extinction against them, annihilating that entire tribe.

The Iroquois came into control of our beautiful valley and its surrounding hills in about the year 1655, but they never occupied it, except temporarily on hunting expeditions. This resulted in Cattaraugus County remaining a total wilderness, covered with dense forests and inhabited only by wild animals. Probably no other place in America, of comparable area, ever contained so many bears, wolves, lynx, and puma. Moose, elk, deer, and wild turkeys also abounded, and great herds of buffalo periodically ranged over the Cattaraugus Hills on their way from the prairies of the mid-West to the Oak Openings of Erie County and central New York. Great flocks of wild pigeons, "sufficient to darken the sky" were also common.

This section of the country was affected then, as now, by transportation on the Great Lakes waterway to the interior of America, which

was carried on in birch bark canoes and French batteaux, and by land on ancient Indian trails that skirted the shores of Lake Erie.

Rude hunters and trappers, who took Indian wives and lived the life of the savages with whom they dwelt, led along our borders the vanguard in the cavalcade of "Westward Ho." Next came the fur traders with their cheap Indian goods to exchange for valuable furs, closely followed by French soldiers and missionaries. La Salle is said to have passed this way in about 1670 and to have explored the route later taken by Céloron, going from Lake Erie, by Chautauqua Creek and portage, into the lake of that name and thence down the Allegheny to the Ohio.

With the fall of Fort Niagara, in 1759, came twenty years of English dominion, when British soldiers followed the trails that had been trod by the French for a hundred years, and the fur trade of the west was opened to the traders of New York. This was followed by the "Hold Over Period," thirteen years following the treaty of peace that officially ended the American Revolution, during which time British troops still held the forts on the American side of the Canadian boundary and dominated the Indian tribes, who remained hostile to the Americans and retarded settlement in western New York.

More directly affecting this section was Sullivan's expedition against the Iroquois in 1779. With the destruction of their villages, cattle, horses, hogs, poultry, stored grain and growing crops the Iroquois were forced to flee from their native land in central New York to Fort Niagara and to beg for food, clothing and shelter from their British allies. More than five thousand of them came to that post. They were scantily provided for and many of them died from starvation and exposure during the unusually severe winter that followed.

The British had difficulty in feeding their own garrison, prisoners, and the Tory refugees who flocked to the fort for refuge from their countrymen. In the spring of 1780 the British induced the Indians to seek new homes in the wilderness and plant crops for their own sustenance.

The Senecas settled on Buffalo Creek, Cattaraugus Creek and Allegheny River. One band, led by old Chief Kill Buck, settled at the mouth of Great Valley Creek. He and his clan later were frequent visitors in Ellicottville. His name has ever since clung to the locality where he settled.

In 1768 Sir William Johnson entered into a treaty with the Iroquois by which there was established a line between the whites and the Indians, beyond which the latter might feel secure in the possession of

their land. This was known as the "Property Line" and extended from a point near Rome south to and across Pennsylvania.

After the Revolution the United States forced upon the Iroquois a treaty which established a western limit to their lands. This line extended from Lake Ontario "along and always four miles east of Niagara River to Lake Erie at Buffalo Creek and thence south to the Pennsylvania line, thence west to Lake Erie and south on the west boundary of Pennsylvania to the Ohio." At that time New York State extended to a point west of Erie, Pennsylvania. This new property line caused so much dissatisfaction and was so unjust to the Senecas living on the Allegheny west of it, that it was later changed to conform with the present western boundary of Chautauqua County.

In the original charters granted by the British Crown to Massachusetts and New York, the western boundaries of both extended to the South Sea. This resulted in both states claiming the Indian lands in central and western New York. The controversy was settled at Hartford, Connecticut, in 1786, by commissioners appointed by the two states. It was agreed that New York should have exclusive jurisdiction over the lands east of a line to extend from Pennsylvania to Lake Ontario and passing one mile west of Geneva. West of that line New York was given the sovereignty and Massachusetts the preemptive right of purchase, subject to the Indian right of occupancy.

In 1788 Oliver Phelps, of Windsor, Connecticut, and Nathaniel Gorham, of Boston, with others, purchased the preëmptive right to all of the Massachusetts land, about six million acres for $1,000,000. Later by a compromise settlement, Phelps and Gorham were given a deed to all of these lands east of Genesee River and a "Mill Seat" at Rochester twelve miles wide by twenty-eight miles long, on the west side of the river, upon the release of the preëmptive right to the remainder of said lands.

In 1791 Massachusetts sold the preëmptive right to all of its remaining lands to Samuel Ogden, who was acting as agent for Robert Morris, the financial genius of the Revolution. Mr. Morris sold all but a small portion of his lands, known as the Morris Reserve, to certain Holland investors, erroneously called the Holland Land Company, with the agreement that he would extinguish the Indian title. This he did at a council of the Senecas held at "Big Tree" (Geneseo), in 1797, except a number of Indian reservations. The "Big Tree Treaty" is worthy of extended discussion, but space will not here permit. Suffice it to say that Mr. Morris secured title to more than four million acres of some of the most fertile land in America for less than one-third of a cent per acre.

It may be of interest to note that the Ogden Land Company is still in existence and now holds the preëmptive right of purchase of the remaining Indian reservations. The frequent bills entered in Congress providing for the division of the communal lands of the tribes among their individual members bear evidence of the activity of such organizations.

At the outset the Holland Land Company had great difficulty in making sales of land, due to the fact that most of the early settlers had little or no money with which to pay for it. To overcome this obstacle they adopted the very liberal policy of accepting personal



TOWN HALL, ELLICOTTVILLE, 1893

property, as a consideration for first payments. This resulted in almost every kind of article being traded for the possession of tracts of land. One man gave his dog as a down payment, another an old shotgun. Many equally curious instances were recorded. The company was satisfied to wait for payment until the settlers were able to clear their land and raise crops with which to pay for it. They even postponed payments of interest in order to encourage settlement. After the War of 1812 land was rapidly taken up.

When Mr. Phelps came onto his vast domain in central New York and settled at Canandaigua, he brought with him many of his relatives and neighbors from Connecticut and Massachusetts, among whom were his cousins Frederick A., Ebenezer and Henry Saxton. Augustus

Porter was another relative. He and Frederick made the survey of the greater part of the Phelps-Gorham Purchase. Later we find Mr. Porter engaged in surveying the Holland Purchase and Henry Saxton in the land office in Batavia.

Cattaraugus County Organized—To quote from John Green, son of James Green, the first settlers in Great Valley: "I came with my father to Olean in 1806. He was the first supervisor of Olean, used to go to Batavia to attend the settings of the Board of Supervisors."

March 11, 1808, by Act of the Legislature, Cattaraugus County was formed from Genesee and annexed to Niagara County, which then included Erie, until such time as it should contain five hundred taxable inhabitants qualified to vote for Member of Assembly. Buffalo was the county seat.

The Act also provided: "And be it further enacted that the County of Cattaraugus be erected into a town by the Name of Olean and that the first Town Meeting in said Town be held in the dwelling house of Joseph McClure in said Town."

Accordingly, on March 28, 1817, the first town meeting in Cattaraugus County was held in the first log house built at McClure's Settlement (Franklinville) by General McClure. At the same time and place Cattaraugus County, having attained the requisite number of qualified voters, was duly organized; and Jonas Williams, Isaac Sutherland and Asa Ransom were appointed a commission to locate the county seat. They selected the site of our beautiful village and marked the spot by the erection of a large ironwood post.

The surveyors of the Holland Land Company were able to spot especially attractive locations and later led settlers to sites which they had previously selected. General McClure settled on land that he had surveyed in Ischua Valley. Rickertson Burlingame surveyed the town of Ellicottville and we find him listed with Grove Hurlburt, Orrin Pitcher, Archelaus Brown and Orrin Brown as the first to take contracts for land in this town.

Ellicottville was in the white pine country. These magnificent trees, towering to heights 150 feet above the surrounding forests, supplied valuable timber and attracted settlers as honey draws the bees. It seems almost incredible that such gigantic trees once grew here. Authentic records were made from actual measurements of a white pine that stood on the campus of Dartmouth College, which was six feet in diameter and 270 feet high. The stump is still preserved. Likewise, there are stumps in Great Valley from which mammoth pines were cut a hundred years ago.

It is well known that Grove Hurlburt built the first log house in Ellicottville, in 1815, and that Orrin Pitcher lived in it the first winter while erecting a similar one for himself, on the site of Fred Ploetz's garage.

It is also well known that Baker Leonard came from Batavia and erected the first frame house, in 1817, for the Holland Land Company for a tavern; that it cost so much when completed that the company refused to accept it; that he moved into it and opened a public house and store, or trading post, and employed Henry Saxton to manage the store; that certain public functions were performed within its walls.

It is not so well known that the excessive cost came from the fact that the lumber used in its construction had to be hauled from the sawmill of James Green, at Kill Buck, eleven miles away; that the trail was marked, only, by blazed trees; that there were no bridges and the way was obstructed with fallen trees, swamp land and rough ground.

It is not generally recognized that this house served as the county courthouse from 1818 to 1820, and became the center of all official activities of the county. Here the county courts were held, the board of supervisors met, and the county records were kept. Here also, the town was organized and the first town meeting held on the second Tuesday in March, 1821.

It is not well known that this house was the principal trading place of the Indians on the Allegany Reservation, and that the floor of the trading room was frequently covered with Indians rolled up in their blankets to sleep for the night; that the Seneca chief, Ely S. Parker, who studied law in the office of Angel and Rice and later was breveted a general on the staff of General Grant, and who wrote the articles of surrender that were signed by General Robert E. Lee at Appomattox, was a frequent visitor in the Saxton home. Letters from him to the writer's grandmother, the late Hannah Saxton Skinner, are there preserved.

The first wedding ceremony in town was performed here when the first lawyer, John A. Bryan, was united in marriage with Eliza Dixon, a sister of Mr. Leonard's wife, Lucy. Contrary to published accounts, John A. Bryan was not the first postmaster in 1822. Baker Leonard's commission as postmaster, dated August 4, 1820, is still preserved in the old house. Here also, Baker Leonard died April 17, 1821, and later Henry Saxton married his widow.

Early Taverns—Besides Baker Leonard's tavern there were others of early date. Probably the next in order of time was the Eagle

Hotel, built in 1818, on about the site of Mrs. J. E. Doolittle's store. It burned in about 1855.

The Leavenworth Hotel, a three-story structure with eaves to the street, extending down to the second story, was built in 1822. The writer has evidence to show that it was moved to the corner of Main and Monroe streets to make room for the Crawford House that burned in 1890, and which was replaced with the fine brick structure recently improved and now the modern Lincoln Hotel. The Leaven-



WASHINGTON STREET, ELLICOTTVILLE, 1893

worth Hotel was known as the "Arcade" in its new location. It was moved a second time, back on Monroe Street to make way for the brick block now occupied by the New York Store. There it housed the saloon of John Headerman and many other businesses. In 1905 John H. Northrup purchased the old building, removed the third story and remodeled it into two stores and two living apartments. It is now occupied by the garage of James J. Parks.

The Senear Hotel, which stood on the present site of the Bank of Ellicottville, burned so many years ago that the oldest residents can only remember having heard others speak of it.

Irving Hall, an imposing three-story structure, stood on Payne's corner. It burned in 1872. The Mansion House, successively known as the Huntley, Warner, Whitney, Hughey, and Fenton, stood on the site of Orrin Pitcher's log cabin, and burned in 1895.

The Gregory Tavern, built in 1822, stood on the site of the new Catholic Church and was moved farther down Jefferson Street and remodeled into two dwelling houses, now occupied by J. E. Fitzpatrick and Emma Paschen. The Reynolds Tavern, which stood on the site of Supervisor Pettit's fine new home, was moved up Washington Street to "the point" and is now occupied by Claire Harris. It was built in about 1818.

The Fish Tavern, at the top of Fish Hill, was a favorite resort of the early military organization of the town and where they held periodic drills. Here, too, the drovers from the West stopped with their droves of sheep and cattle on their way to eastern markets. The yards and gardens of the villagers were fenced to protect them from these great herds. The town pound was located at the south end of Monroe Street, where stray cattle were confined.

Early Schools—The first school was taught by Eunice Carpenter, in Orrin Pitcher's log house, in 1818. The next year, Ursula Maltby taught one in Baker Leonard's house. In the winter of 1820, Chauncey J. Fox taught in the original courthouse. He was followed by John W. Staunton, the next winter.

"Select Schools" were taught in the Holland land office, the first county clerk's office, the Alex Bird house and in the second story of the first schoolhouse, which was erected on the public square in about 1824, while a district school was taught in the first story. A female seminary was opened in 1835.

A controversy developed that split the school district in two. One faction built a schoolhouse on the corner of Elizabeth and Adams streets. It was later sold to William Beecher and is now occupied by John Schults. The other faction built a small building near the Catholic Church. The old schoolhouse was purchased by Nicholas Devereux and remodeled into a chapel for the Catholic Church. It was later occupied for many years by William Scoville as a tin shop and now houses the farm implement business of E. E. Litchfield & Son.

The rapid growth in school population, thrift and good sense brought about a reunion of the district, and, in 1851, a beautiful Colonial type of school building was erected on the public square to meet the growing needs of the community. In 1887 this was moved

to the present site of Fitzpatrick & Weller's last factory, on Mill Street, and converted into a gristmill by Daniel E. Bartlett, where it burned May 19, 1893. The brick high school was erected on the square in 1887. The stone jail that stood on the public square, directly across Washington Street, was torn down for the stone that it contained, to be used in the foundation of the new schoolhouse. This was later enlarged, and, in 1928, the rear portion of it was demolished and the present commodious modern structure erected.

Early Church History—May 19, 1851, Bishop John Timon deeded to Nicholas Devereux the property situated on the northerly side of East Washington Street, formerly owned by Ellen Cronin. The old house that still stands on that property may have been the first chapel used in Ellicottville by the Catholic Church. This is indicated by the fact that the first church erected at the foot of Washington Street was built the same year.

In a historical sketch of the church by Father Edward J. Rengel, he states that Rev. T. McEvoy came here before 1850 and said mass in the old Mansion House, and six months later in the Devereux land office. He also corroborates statements made by others, that Nicholas Devereux purchased the first schoolhouse and converted it into a church edifice. These facts tend to strengthen the theory that the old Cronin house may have been the first Catholic chapel.

The first Presbyterian Church was erected in 1838, where Peter J. Heunderfeld later built his furniture factory, store and undertaking establishment, on Monroe Street, now occupied by William H. Green. The present brick church, on Elizabeth Street, was erected in 1852. The first Methodist Church, erected in 1850, is the building on Elizabeth Street that was remodeled into a double house by Halsey F. Northrup at the time the present edifice was built in 1892. Methodist Church services were held here about 1822.

The remarkable history of St. John's Episcopal Church and that of its wonderfully sweet-toned bell is too extensive and well known to need repetition here. The story of the later churches is equally well known.

Financial Institutions—Truman R. Coleman and Theodore Smith were engaged in the land business on their own account from 1847 to 1852, and carried on a private banking business at the same time.

Eleazer Harmon carried on a banking business for two or three years, about 1855, in the first county clerk's office. This was the little

one-story brick building that stood in the rear of the courthouse until recent years. It was built in 1823.

J. King Skinner opened a bank of discount in the second story of the old brick block, January 1, 1858. In November of the same year, he moved his business into the Devereux land office, on the opposite side of Washington Street, where the Ellis Block now is.

The Bank of Ellicottville was organized July 15, 1878, and opened its office for business in the second county clerk's office, now used by the high school for its domestic science department. This building was erected on the public square in 1853.

Early Industries and Odd Items of Interest—Few know that a tannery was operated by water power derived from a primitive overshot water wheel on the Daniel Crowley lot at the west edge of the village. The old mill race is still easily discernible.

Equally unknown is the fact that the late Frank M. Fitch was a cooper in his youth, and manufactured butter firkins (quarter-barrel oak tubs) in the little building that stood on the bank of the creek where Nitsche's garage now is. Mr. Fitch performed every operation from the felling of the trees and cutting of the staves to the finished product. The little building was later occupied by Stephen A. Harrington as a grocery store and office of justice of the peace. He was followed by Frank Bille, who was noted for the high quality of his bananas and peanuts. To quote his oft-made statement: "I loosa on da peanut and maka on da banan."

The old gristmill that stood on the site of the Ellicottville electric light plant was built in 1832. In it J. King Skinner served as the first stationmaster of the Rochester & State Line Railroad. Prior to its erection the settlers carried their grist, on horseback, through wolf-infested forests to the mill built at Peth by James Green in 1813.

The Holland land office is still in existence. It was built by Baker Leonard in the winter of 1817-18 directly across Washington Street from his tavern and faced the public square. In 1892 it was moved farther west and built into the Methodist parsonage. The ancient doorway and windows are still intact. It served as the home of the much-beloved "Grandma Mudgett" in her latter days.

The little red building that stood at the corner of Great Valley Road, leading to Mutton Hollow, which was recently torn down, was part of the old "Toll Gate." The only other commemorative evidence we have of the "Old Plank Road" is the Plank Road House (Evergreen Tea Room), in Great Valley.

"The Independent Bachelors" were organized February 16, 1848, for the express purpose of electing bachelors to office. Failing to elect any of their candidates in the following election, and some of their members taking fair ladies of the village to be their brides, the organization soon dissolved.

CHAPTER XLV

Cattaraugus County Newspapers

By John C. Armstrong, Litt. D.

The newspapers of Cattaraugus County as they exist today are in almost every case the result of combinations and mergers of the journals which were so numerous at the beginning of the twentieth century that it was said that there were as many newspapers as there were towns in the county. Practically all of these journals were founded as political organs and it was inevitable that those, owing their origin to factional movements, would die as soon as their usefulness was ended. The existing newspapers have proved their worth to their respective communities and have earned the support of their constituents in their years of useful life. The first newspaper to be published in Cattaraugus County was the "Allegany Mercury," established by Benjamin F. Smead, in 1818, in the village of Hamilton, as Olean was then known. A year later the name of the journal was changed to the "Hamilton Recorder" and Franklin Coudrey became interested in its management. The territory was then very sparsely settled and could hardly support a newspaper. The life of the "Recorder" was therefore short, lasting only two years. For six years after it suspended publication the county was without a newspaper. In 1826 Richard Hill started a newspaper in Ellicottville, calling it the "Western Courier." As it was published in what was then the county seat, Hill changed the name of his publication to the "Cattaraugus Gazette" and attempted to make its circulation completely county-wide. But the journal lasted only two years and was suspended some time late in 1828.

Olean was for many years the point from which thousands of settlers from the Eastern States made their way to the west, traveling by rafts on the Allegheny. In 1835 two brothers, C. W. and P. H. Cutler, both printers bound for the western country, were in Olean

awaiting passage on the river when they unearthed an old press and some type, relicts apparently of the old "Hamilton Recorder" which had suspended publication some years before. The two ambitious brothers began the publication of a weekly, to which they gave the name of the county's first newspaper of seventeen years before, the "Allegany Mercury." But the venture was short lived and only a few numbers were issued.



(Photo Courtesy of John C. Krieger Collection)

MAIN STREET, SALAMANCA, LOOKING SOUTH, ABOUT 1902

A New York City concern, the Olean Land and Hydraulic Co., established an office in Olean in 1836. Apparently the company believed in the advantages of publicity and sent to Olean a press and materials to publish a newspaper. It sent along an editor as well in the person of Rufus W. Griswold. He was a Baptist preacher and a man of varied talents. In Olean he preached and edited the "Olean Advocate," the first numbers being issued in July, 1836. The Land and Hydraulic Co. sold the newspaper in 1838 to a company formed

of Olean men, the controlling interests being in the hands of F. S. Martin and J. G. Johnson. Griswold resigned the editorship and left Olean. He was afterwards editor of "Graham's Magazine" and the "International Magazine" and wrote several books, including a volume of poetry.

The "Olean Advocate" was edited by two Olean lawyers in turn, Carlos Woodcock and Dudley Bryan, and then a jeweler, A. N. Badger, took over the editorship and changed the name to the "Olean Times." It continued publication until November, 1840, when it went out of existence. Both the "Advocate" and "Times" were Whig organs during their existence.

Meanwhile a group of capitalists had conceived an ambitious scheme. Samuel P. Lyman headed the group and the plan was the establishment of a city at Hinsdale, six miles north of Olean. A company was formed to build the city in 1837 and to further the project the "Hinsdale Democrat" was established, with Joseph T. Lyman as editor. It passed into the hands of Edward Hughes & Co. a short time later and suspended publication at the end of about two years. At the time Hinsdale was a large settlement, more important than Olean.

In 1840 George C. Smith founded the "People's Gazette" in Hinsdale. Publication continued until 1842, when the printing plant was removed to Livingston County. At Scotts Corners, just beyond Hinsdale, Edwin Fuller, in 1843, started the "Freeman and Messenger." This publication was in the interests of a scheme known as the "Manual Labor Institute." It lasted for about two years. The press and materials passed into the hands of Allen Fuller, who published for six months in 1845 the "Expositor."

In 1853 the "Olean Journal" was started with Charles Aldrich as editor. In 1856 it was sold to J. T. Henry, who changed the name to the "Olean Advertiser" and under that name it was published for many years.

The "Olean Times" was founded in 1860, its first issue appearing in July of that year. The editors were L. M. Gano and A. E. Fay. The paper was established as the result of the raising of a $1,200 subscription for the publication of a Republican newspaper and the group responsible for the undertaking made a contract with Gano to publish the journal for five years at the end of which time the newspaper and the plant were to become Gano's property. In 1862 fire destroyed the entire printing plant, but it was replaced with money

received from insurance. In 1864 there was an interesting law suit over the newspaper property. George D. Bridgeman purchased the "Times" and attempted to remove the plant to Penn Yan. The Olean group prevented him from doing so by enforcing its contract with Gano and Bridgeman sued to recover the value of the materials. In March, 1865, the Olean group sold the materials to C. F. Dickinson, under a contract similar to the one entered into with Gano in 1860. Meantime there was a verdict rendered in favor of Bridgeman at Little Valley, subject to the approval of the Supreme Court at general



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session and that court rendered a decision favorable to the Olean group.

Dickinson continued the publication of the "Olean Times" until his death in 1871. His widow continued the business with Miles A. Davis as editor. She sold the establishment shortly afterward to her brother-in-law, George W. Dickinson, who conducted the newspaper until December, 1881, when it was sold to a stock company, the Olean Times Publishing Co. The paper had been changed from a weekly to a daily in 1879. Richmond C. Hill became its editor when it passed into the control of the new stock company.

In 1883 George N. Wood became associated with the company, Samuel H. Coon became local editor and the editorials were written

by D. H. Bolles. Wood died in 1887 and the paper later passed into the hands of S. C. Green, Blanchard B. Weber and A. W. Ferrin. Green left the undertaking and his place was taken by George Strait. "The Times" passed to the direction of H. G. Fitzpatrick, its present publisher, in 1911.

Meanwhile Henry McKenzie had established the "Olean Record" in 1877 and two years later he sold it to W. W. Henry and Charles F. Persons, who changed the name to the "Olean Democrat." When the Allegany oil field was opened several years later Persons started a morning paper, the "Olean Daily Herald." In 1885 Herbert D. Sibley purchased the "Herald" and his brother-in-law, W. L. Ostrom, became associated with him. The "Herald" remained under the Ostrom management until it was sold to the Gannett interests some ten years ago. The "Herald" was merged with the "Times" in January, 1932, becoming the "Olean Times-Herald."

The dozen or more newspapers now published in Cattaraugus County include only two dailies, the "Olean Times-Herald" and the "Salamanca Republican-Press." The Salamanca establishment also issues, as a weekly, the "Cattaraugus Republican." This paper has the distinction of having been under the same family ownership for seventy-two years. It was first established in Ellicottville by Augustine W. Ferrin in 1867 and was removed to Little Valley in 1868, when that village became the county seat instead of Ellicottville. From Little Valley Mr. Ferrin moved his paper, in 1875, to Salamanca, where it has been published ever since. Meanwhile, in 1873, Blanchard B. Weber, Mr. Ferrin's brother-in-law, had become associated with him in the management of the publication. In 1880 a great fire in Salamanca destroyed the "Republican's" plant and Hon. S. C. Green, of Little Valley, purchased a third interest in the reëstablished enterprise. Two years later he sold this interest to his partners and Ferrin & Weber conducted the paper until 1895, when B. B. Weber became sole proprietor. In 1926 Mr. Weber was joined by his son, Matthew Weber, long editor of the paper, in the partnership which controls the newspaper today. The "Republican-Press," the daily which has for many years served Salamanca and its vicinity, was an outgrowth of the weekly "Republican."

Today, despite his great age, Blanchard B. Weber still maintains an active part in the publication of his newspaper. Cattaraugus County has other veterans of journalism, notably Marc D. Johnson, of Randolph; Joseph Mutschlechner, of Allegany; and M. G. Fitz-

patrick, of Olean, but Mr. Weber's record is probably the most outstanding in America today.

The "Salamanca Inquirer," founded by John B. Leach, is published weekly. Mr. Leach, a printer, was stricken with sudden blindness some twenty years ago. Undaunted he set up and successfully conducted a commercial printing plant and a few years later began the publication of the "Inquirer."

Salamanca has had a number of newspapers that lasted for brief periods. The "Gazette" was published there for a few months by



(Photo Courtesy of John C. Krieger Collection)

SOUTH MAIN STREET, SALAMANCA, ABOUT 1907

All of the buildings on the left to the bridge and those on the right to the parked automobile were burned in the fire of 1923.

J. S. Fidler in the interests of the Greenback party in 1880. It had been preceded by the "County Record," also a Greenback organ, started in 1877 by George W. Mason, and a short-lived publication. In 1882 H. L. Green began in Salamanca a monthly publication called the "Freethinkers' Magazine." Within four years the publication office had been removed to Buffalo. The "Cattaraugus Union," established in Ellicottville in 1850 by James T. Henry, passed in time

into the hands of the Shankland family, by whom it was removed to Salamanca in 1881 and its publication was continued for many years in that city.

It would be impossible to give within the compass of this article a full account of newspapers published from time to time in Cattaraugus County, even if reliable information regarding all of them could be obtained, but it is known that most of the publications were short-lived, due perhaps to their purely partisan political character.

Randolph was the center of newspaper activity for many years, having various publications under many names. The "Randolph Herald" was established in March, 1842, and proved an influential publication. It had no less than five publishers in the five years of existence, however, and discontinued publication when its last editor and publisher, J. J. Strong, became converted to Mormonism and left Randolph to settle in Nauvoo, Illinois.

From 1848 to 1852, A. M. Shattuck published a literary journal called the "Neosophic Gem" in Randolph. In July, 1853, the "Randolph Whig" was started by C. K. Judson and B. F. Morris. Judson soon sold out to his partner, who changed the name to the "Randolph Reporter" and the paper's politics to Democratic. Publication of the paper was continued at Randolph until 1858.

In 1865 the "Randolph Register" was founded by Southwick & Grierson. When it was first started it was called the "Rural City Budget," but the name was soon changed to the "Register." In 1866 the paper was sold to Austin L. Topliff, who in turn sold it a year later to William Sherman. The paper, which supported Horace Greeley for the presidency in 1872, called itself "Liberal-Republican" in politics. It next became the "Republican" in 1874, when it passed into the control of F. J. Lockwood and E. J. Smith. D. D. Lockwood purchased Smith's interest in 1875. For seven years the Lockwood brothers conducted the paper; they sold it in 1882 to George Roberts and John Mishy. The new owners published it for a little over six months, when Mishy sold his interests to Ben S. Dean. Dean sold his interest in the paper in 1885 to Charles W. Terry and the latter came into full control. He sold his entire interest to Marc D. Johnson & Co., in December, 1885. The "Courant," then published by W. A. Shewman, was purchased by the Johnson firm in 1890 and the name of the publishing company was changed to the Randolph Publishing Co. In January, 1892, Marc D. Johnson acquired all the stock in the company and the "Courant" was consolidated with the

"Register" a few months later. The "Register" is still being published under the same management.

In the latter part of 1827 publication of a newspaper was begun at Lodi, the settlement in the extreme northern end of the county, now the village of Gowanda. Edwin Hough was the publisher of the journal and at the end of its first year of existence it was known as the "Freeman and Messenger." In the course of his wanderings as a journeyman printer Horace Greeley worked in the plant of the "Freeman and Messenger" for some time during 1830.

Gowanda has had a considerable number of newspapers in its history. In March, 1847, the "Western Democrat" was established at Lodi by A. A. Ladue, who sold it in April, 1848, to William Van Vechten, but inside of two months it had passed into the hands of John W. Mason and Charles Aldrich. They sold it back to Van Vechten a month later. In September, 1848, the name of the village was changed from Lodi to Gowanda and the name of the paper became the "Gowanda Democrat." The paper expired soon afterwards. Short-lived also was the "Gowanda Persian," issued by J. C. Van Duzer, and lasting only a few months.

In October, 1850, H. M. Morgan began to publish the "Cattaraugus Chronicle," a Democratic organ. Its name was soon changed to the "Independent Chronicle," with the Rev. Louis S. Morgan becoming its editor. In July, 1854, John M. Henry bought an interest in the paper, the name being again changed to the "Gowanda Chronicle," but Henry's connection with it was of very brief duration and H. M. Morgan continued as publisher until April, 1856, when the paper was sold to John P. Gierson, of Buffalo, who made it a Republican organ. On April 30, 1856, a disastrous fire swept Gowanda and destroyed the publishing plant. The "Gowanda Pioneer" was then established with Rev. Louis S. Morgan as publisher. The paper was published until some time in 1857.

James T. Henry started the "Gowanda Whig" in November, 1850, but a few months later he removed the paper to Ellicottville, then the county seat. In 1865 the "Gowanda Bulletin" was founded by J. N. Melvin. It lived about one year.

The "Gowanda Gazette" began publication in June, 1867, under the control of John S. Fidler, who ran the paper for about ten years. He sold to John J. Horton and E. D. Deming, who issued the "Gowanda Enterprise" as an independent paper. Horton continued as publisher of the "Enterprise" until 1887, when he sold to Tor-

rance & Colby, who changed the name of the paper to "Our Public Interests" and made it a Prohibition organ. A year later they sold it to a stock company, which changed the name to the "Gowanda Herald." "The Gowanda News," now published in the village, is the successor of perhaps a score of newspapers which have come and gone since the "Lodi Pioneer" was first published in November, 1827.

Ellicottville, for many years the county seat, has been the scene of considerable journalistic activity. Reference has already been made to the fact that the second newspaper to be established in the county was at Ellicottville under management of Richard Hill. This was in 1826. In 1833 the "Ellicottville Republican" was started in the county seat by a stock company with Delos E. Sill in charge of the publication. Sill seems to have been a very capable newspaper man for he conducted successful enterprises. In 1840 he reëstablished the "Cattaraugus Whig" in the interest of the election of William Henry Harrison as President of the United States. In 1848 R. L. Carey joined Sill and the partners issued the paper until 1854. The dissolution of the Whig party led to the changing of the name of the paper to the "Cattaraugus Freeman." So powerful was the influence of this publication that when the Republican party was formed the "Freeman" became its recognized organ in the county. The paper ceased to exist in 1866, its printing plant being sold to the "Olean Advertiser" and its subscription list to the "Olean Times."

The "Ellicottville Republican" in the meanwhile had passed into the hands of R. H. Shankland in 1835 and, in 1836, the name was changed to the "Cattaraugus Republican," under which title it was published until October, 1854, when it was sold to Saxton & Morris, who conducted it until it ceased publication in 1862.

The "Gowanda Whig," founded by James T. Henry, in 1850, was removed to Ellicottville within a few months and became the "Whig and Union." Henry published the paper until 1855, when the establishment was sold to R. H. Shankland. In 1857 it became a Democratic organ as the "Union" and in 1862 it became the "Cattaraugus Union." In May, 1881, the paper was removed to Salamanca and was published there for a number of years by the Shankland family.

In January, 1867, A. W. Ferrin began the publication of the "Cattaraugus Republican" in Ellicottville. In May, 1868, the county seat was removed to Little Valley and the newspaper moved with it. On January 1, 1873, B. B. Weber became an equal owner in the paper. In August, 1873, Ferrin & Weber opened a branch office in

Salamanca and from then on the "Republican" was dated at Salamanca and Little Valley. In October, 1875, the press was removed to Salamanca. Ferrin & Weber were at times owners of the Bradford, Pennsylvania, "Era" and the "Olean Times."



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, RANDOLPH, 1893

In 1882 Robert B. Carr started an independent newspaper in Ellicottville under the name of the "News." This paper continued to be published for some years before ending its existence.

The "Post," the weekly newspaper now published in Ellicottville, came into existence in November, 1884, under the control of James Moffitt & Son. It is today the sole successor of the numerous newspapers published at various times in the village.

The "Franklinville Chronicle-Journal," the newspaper now published in that village, had a number of predecessors. In 1865 the weekly "Pioneer" was started by H. A. Williams, who was soon joined by A. M. Curtiss in issuing the paper. The name of the publication was changed to the "Franklinville Pioneer," but it suspended in 1867, when press and printing materials were removed by the owners to Arcade in Wyoming County. Francis M. Perley established the "Weekly Argus" in Franklinville in September, 1875. It was independent in politics and in 1889, when Charles A. Perley became the publisher, the name was changed to the "Chronicle."

The "Star," once published in Machias, was born in Franklinville under the management of J. A. Orr in July, 1883, as a Prohibition organ. The removal of the paper to Machias took place a few years later.

The "Cattaraugus Journal" was started in Franklinville in August, 1888, by Levi T. Spring. In 1889 Ward Morton purchased a half interest and in 1891 the name was changed to the "Franklinville Journal."

The "Cattaraugus Times," still published in the village of Cattaraugus, is the successor of the "Cattaraugus Gazette," founded by J. D. Jones, in October, 1884. A month later George Straight purchased the paper and it became the "Cattaraugus County Times."

Limestone, lying between Salamanca and Bradford, Pennsylvania, had three newspapers in its brief period of prosperity as a boom town. The settlement became important when the extension of the oil development down the Tuna Valley from Bradford occurred in the late seventies. The "Tuna Valley Oil News" made its appearance in 1876 with Charles Topliff as publisher. It suspended publication in September, 1878. The "Limestone Times" was the name of a weekly newspaper started in May, 1878, with a group of Limestone men as owners and Robert Troup as editor. Its name was changed to the "Limestone Telegraph" a few months later. It soon ceased to exist. In February, 1879, Ferrin & Weber, of Salamanca, published the "Limestone Reporter," but this paper lasted only until September, 1880.

Portville, in which the "Review" is now published, has also seen a number of journalistic enterprises. Early in 1867 the "Portville Mirror" was established in the village by B. D. Southwick, but it lasted only one year. An ambitious publication, a monthly journal, called the "Educator," was started in 1889 by W. H. Smith, then

principal of the Portville Union School. This journal at one time had a large circulation.

Allegany has as its newspaper the "Citizen," published for many years now by Joseph Mutschlechner, one of the veteran printers and journalists of western New York. It was in 1874 that A. H. McClure began the publication of "Town Talk," a semi-monthly journal, in Allegany. In May, 1875, it was enlarged and the name changed to the "Allegany Journal." Later in the same year it became a weekly, published by J. J. Barker. It changed hands several times after becoming a weekly and its publication was suspended in 1881.

The newspapers today (1939) published in Cattaraugus County are:

Dailies—The "Times-Herald," Olean; the "Republican-Press," Salamanca.

Weeklies—The "Citizen," Allegany; the "Times," Cattaraugus; the "Post," Ellicottville; the "Chronicle-Journal," Franklinville; the "News," Gowanda; the "Hub," Little Valley; the "Sentinel," Machias; the "News," Olean; the "Review," Portville; the "Register," Randolph; the "Inquirer," Salamanca; the "Cattaraugus Republican," Salamanca.

CHAPTER XLVI

Bells of Cattaraugus County

By Ella M. Finch

Those who read Poe's poem on "The Bells" leave it feeling a deeper interest in these purveyors of tidings. So, too, one can hardly resist the fascination of historic bells after having delved into the history of a number of them.

Some of the bells in Cattaraugus County are of great interest to its citizens. In Ellicottville, a very old bell is located. The bell in St. John's Episcopal Church, Ellicottville, has attained the age of 231 years, and it is quite likely that it surpasses in age any other bell in the county.

It was cast during the reign of Philip V, at Malaga, Spain, in the year 1708. It was brought to America in the year 1837 or 1836, and arrived at Ellicottville in the fall of 1838, and for 101 years has remained in its resting place in the tower of St. John's Episcopal Church sending out its clear and musical call for attendance on services, and for many years was rung three times a day—at six o'clock in the morning, at noon and at nine o'clock in the evening.

It is a bronze bell having a circumference at the top of four feet and two inches and seven feet two and one-half inches at the base; height two feet and nine inches and weighing about 1,300 pounds. On one side of the bell is an ornamental cross, set in an ornamental triangular base. Above the end of each arm of the cross is a nail pointing downwards at an angle, and one also on the right side of the cross near the bottom, pointing to the foot. Near the top of the bell, in two lines running around it in antique characters, is this inscription:

Abe Soi Labos Del Angel Ov Een Alto Svena Maria Gracia Plena Bargas Mefeci, Malaga, 1708.

That inscription is said to be corrupt Spanish, and when corrected into pure Spanish would stand thus: "Ave 'soi la voz del Angel que

en alto suena Maria, plena gracia." Translation: "Hail I am the voice of the angel who on high sounds forth, Mary, full of grace." The founder's name and place of manufacture is added "Bargas, made at Malaga, 1708."

The late Nicholas Devereux, of Utica, New York, who purchased large tracts of land in western New York from the Holland Land Company in 1835, while on a visit to New York City at about that time, purchased the bell from a Spanish cargo and later sold it to the



VIEW OF EAST RANDOLPH, 1893

original members of St. John's Episcopal Church, Ellicottville, for $125, when it was installed in the church on its completion in 1838.

The First Presbyterian Church of Franklinville, which is one of the oldest churches in the county, having been founded as early as 1813, has an old bell believed to be the oldest in that section of the county. It cost $100 and has the following inscription:

Naylor Vickers & Co., Sheffield, 1860.
E. Riepe's Patent, Cast Steel No. 2185.

The exact date of the installation of this bell is uncertain, but it is believed to have been used considerably more than half a century. It has not been used in recent years.

The bell in the First Baptist Church of Franklinville is also of some antiquity and bears the following inscription:

Baptist Church, Franklinville, N. Y., 1886. Purchased by The Ladies Aid Society. "Come Let Us Worship and Bow Down. Ps. 95:6." Made by Clinton H. Meneely Bell Company, Troy, N. Y., U. S. A., A. D. 1886.

Another old bell in the county is in use in the First Congregational Church at Salamanca. It was originally used at the Congregational Church at Napoli, which in its day was an important institution, having jurisdiction over all the Congregational churches in a district which extended from Jamestown, New York, to Smethport, Pennsylvania. The bell was hung in 1869, and was transferred to the Congregational Church at Salamanca in 1919.

There are a number of old bells in Gowanda. The school bell on the Union School was installed in 1876. The bell in the Presbyterian Church dates from 1886 and the fire department bell is of about the same date. The bells in the Methodist Episcopal, Lutheran and St. Joseph's Roman Catholic churches all date from about 1887 or 1888.

Probably the oldest bell in Gowanda was last reported as owned by Mrs. Mary Carpenter of Chapel Street. This bell, which is of brass with wooden handle, resembles the old-time schoolhouse gongs. It was used mainly as a dinner bell, although Mrs. Carpenter recollected that when she was a small girl the bell was used in the camp meetings of those days to call the people together.

In Ischua is a brass school bell, used by Mrs. Blanche Brown, of Ischua, her mother before her, and two of her daughters, all teachers successively in the same town. This bell was bought in 1860.

Miss Lilla C. Wheeler, of Portville, owns an old dinner bell used in her family for several generations.

One old bell in the East Randolph Methodist Church has been in use since 1852. This bell was burned in the spring of 1927. It was feared that the bell was irreparably damaged, but it was found to be uninjured and is now in the new church building giving as good service as ever. The bell itself is very interesting, not only from its unusual size, but because it is really a thing of beauty. Its outer surface is nearly covered with relief work and designs, one being some fourteen lyres, encircling the bell, each being six by eight inches in

size. Underneath these lyres are seventy angelic figures, each bearing forth a musical instrument, all typifying the enchanting tones it gives forth.

An interesting story is associated with the bell now used in the Methodist Church at Randolph. The old bell in this edifice was discarded in the summer of 1918, and the bell at present in service purchased from a church at Watts Flats. It was brought to Randolph on a truck and had not yet been put in place on the day the Armistice was signed. Word being received at Randolph about two A. M., of the signing of the Armistice, some of the young men of the village got out the truck on which the bell stood and went up and down the streets clanging the bell, thus giving the first notice of the end of the World War. Thus, this bell had a most interesting history even before it was hung in the church tower.

The tubular chimes installed in St. Mary of the Angels Church in Olean were the largest set made at that time by the J. C. Deagan Company of Chicago. The chimes are twenty-five in number and cover two octaves. They are equipped with all the latest automatic attachments including a mechanical player which renders a diversified program at noon and a curfew song at night, but which can be adjusted for any hour or played at any time. The Angelus is sounded automatically at morning, noon and evening. Beginning at seven in the morning the hour is struck and a strain from the hymn "Holy God We Praise Thy Name" is played every quarter hour until nine at night. A tolling device for funerals and a change ring for announcing services respond at the touch of a button. The system is under control of a clock for its automatic performances, but the chimes may be played from the organ console and from a separate console in the sacristy. Six miles of copper wire in five hundred feet of piping carry the electric current and over a thousand circuits were made in the installation. The electrical work was done by John B. Harold, Jr., who supervised the system.

The cost of the chimes and installation was nineteen thousand dollars and was principally borne by eighty donors whose names or those of their dead appear on a bronze tablet which has been placed in front of the church. Other donors are commemorated in a Book of Donors.

CHAPTER XLVII

Education in Cattaraugus County

By George A. Place

The colonists who settled New York State came largely from Holland and England and brought with them a strong desire to give their children the benefits of schooling, and they were willing to make the necessary sacrifices for that purpose. This same ambition was found among the early settlers in Cattaraugus County, and we find them organizing crude schools in log cabins almost as soon as their own cabins were completed.

Before the Revolutionary War schools in the State were scattering and of uncertain quality. Children of the wealthier classes were tutored, were taught by the clergy, or were sent abroad for their education. The few elementary schools were either private or parochial.

The Revolution seemed to weld the elements of population and to turn people as a whole to an interest in public education. In 1787 a system of public education was organized under the management of a Board of Regents, but this new system included only a few schools of higher grade, not the elementary.

In 1789, lands in each township were set apart for endowment of common schools and in 1795 a sum of $50,000 per year was set aside by the New York State Legislature for the purpose of encouraging elementary education. This fund was distributed to towns which would raise by tax half as much as their share. Gideon Hawley was the first State Superintendent appointed to assist in organizing schools in towns and districts. During the eight years of his administration much progress was made in the public elementary school system. For at least a generation, however, but little attention was given to high schools or schools of still higher grade.

There seems to be no definite information about the first school in Cattaraugus County, but there are good reasons to believe that the first

school was opened in a vacant log cabin in 1809 by Dr. John McClure. This cabin was located on Ischua Creek between Franklinville and Cadiz. These early schools were usually taught in a vacant log cabin, in a centrally located home, or in the home of the schoolmaster. As the number of settlers increased, community "bees" were often called together and all the men of the community turned in with axes, mauls, wedges, hand spikes and ox teams and erected a log schoolhouse with a fireplace of field stones for heating equipment. Window glass was scarce and expensive, so oftentimes the light was very deficient. The schoolhouse was often used for religious services when an itinerant minister passed through on horseback.

While this fund appropriated by the Legislature for the support of schools was available in 1795, there is no record of any of it being used in Cattaraugus County until the year 1819. The report for that year shows that the five towns of Ischua, Olean, Great Valley, Little Valley and Perrysburg raised the amount of $57.68 as their share for the support of their schools. The Holland Land Company, which owned large grants of land in western New York, often made free grants of small parcels of land for schoolhouse sites. In each town in the county the history of the schools follows this same general plan.

In addition to the common schools in each town several special schools sprang up in the county. The most important ones were Chamberlain Institute, Eclectic Medical College, Randolph Home for Homeless Children, all in the town of Randolph; Ten Broeck Academy at Franklinville; St. Bonaventure College in the town of Allegany; the Quaker Indian School on Tunesassa Creek; the Ellicottville Female Seminary in Ellicottville, the series of common schools for Indian children on the Allegany and Cattaraugus Reservation.

The first school in the town of Ellicottville was opened in 1818. Private homes were used as schoolhouses for two years. Then the county courthouse was used for two winters. In 1835 a school for girls known as the Ellicottville Female Seminary was opened. This was operated for five or six years before being discontinued.

In the organization of the Catholic Church in the early days, Cattaraugus County was a part of the Buffalo Diocese, with Bishop Timon in charge. He was most anxious to establish the order of St. Francis in his diocese, so he applied to the authorities in his church, and in 1855 three Franciscan fathers and one lay brother were sent to Cattaraugus County. They located in Ellicottville, and carried on their missionary labors there for three years.

The Holland Land Company owned a half million acres in the wilderness of western New York, which they cut up into plots and sold to settlers. Nicholas Devereux, of Utica, New York, was an officer in this company. He, being a devout member of the Catholic Church, and being interested in spreading its influence, offered to the church two hundred acres of valley land and a sum of money if it would establish a mission in the Allegheny Valley. So the Franciscan fathers moved from Ellicottville to the donated site in the valley between the village of Allegany and the city of Olean. There they laid the foundation of what became St. Bonaventure College.

Work on the college was begun in 1856. The first building was completed in 1858, and the school was opened in 1859 with a registration of fifteen. The second building was opened in 1862. The first graduation exercises were held June 18, 1864, when the school had a registration of sixty or more students. The college suffered a temporary setback during the Civil War, but recovered rapidly afterward and by 1871 had a registration of 130 students. The Regents of the State of New York gave St. Bonaventure the right to grant degrees and the first degrees were given at the graduation exercises in 1876.

St. Bonaventure College has made a consistent growth during the years since the war. One of the buildings was destroyed by fire in 1933, but many new buildings have been erected so that there are now the following buildings—Devereux Hall, de la Roche Hall, St. Bonaventure Music Hall, Alumni Hall, Father Alexander Memorial, Father Joseph Butler Memorial, Alexander Hickey Memorial and the library. In the library collection are many rare and valuable books. There are said to be some of the finest specimens of early printing, binding and engraving to be found in the United States.

The college catalog for the year 1938 shows that the college offers courses in the preparation for the priesthood and also courses in education, in the liberal arts, in science, pre-law, pre-medical and business administration. This catalog also lists about five hundred students in attendance during the preceding school year.

In 1860 a girls' school, St. Elizabeth's Academy, was founded across the valley and about a half mile to the west of St. Bonaventure. That school still continues as a boarding school for girls, including courses in elementary and secondary education.

Probably the first school in the town of Randolph was a common district school opened near the present village of Randolph in 1822.

Following this the entire town was divided into districts and one-room schools were opened wherever there was a demand.

In 1837 a small select school was opened in the Methodist meetinghouse. It enjoyed an excellent reputation and was continued for about ten years under several different principals.

In 1848 a medical school was established at Randolph. It was known as the Eclectic Medical School at Randolph. It opened with a faculty of seven well trained professors and a student body of forty. It did not continue long at Randolph, but was soon moved to Syracuse and later to New York.

The early settlers in the town of Randolph were largely from central New York and the New England States. They seem to have brought with them to this new country a very strong belief in the value of formal education. On July 4, 1849, the people of the territory surrounding Randolph came together for a large community picnic gathering. Along with the oratory appropriate to the day, appeared a proposition to build a school of high grade to "render untold benefits to the youth of the land." The meeting was enthusiastic, plans were made and money pledged. Two hundred fifteen shares of stock at $25 a share were sold, raising a sum of over $5,000. An experienced builder, Joseph Ditto, was engaged to erect the new $5,000 building. It was a well constructed brick building of three stories and was opened for school in August, 1850. This new "Randolph Academy and Female Seminary" was the only school of its kind in the county and was opened with a registration of 184 students. It was chartered by the New York State Education Department in 1851 and was authorized to carry on a State training class for the preparation of teachers. In 1864 a two-story chapel was added to provide an assembly room and additional rooms for students.

Among the trustees of the school was a man named Benjamin Chamberlain, who had become wealthy in the lumber business. During his lifetime and by his will he gave large sums for education. A part of this went to Allegheny College at Meadville, Pennsylvania, but Randolph Academy received a very generous amount and by an Act of the Legislature the name of the institution was changed to Chamberlain Institute and the Erie Conference of the Methodist Church was given power to appoint the trustees.

With this money from Judge Chamberlain another large building was built. In 1872 this beautiful new building was destroyed by fire. Dr. James T. Edwards, the principal at the time, appealed to the

friends of the school for financial aid so successfully that within ten months a new building, a duplicate of the old, was erected on the same foundation.

The school continued for about thirty years as a coeducational school giving the teacher training, the literary, the scientific, the classical, the music, the commercial and the college preparatory courses.

In 1904 Colonel James E. Dunn took charge of the school and changed it to a military school and changed the name to Chamberlain Military Institute. It was carried on as a high class military high



CHAMBERLAIN INSTITUTE, RANDOLPH, 1893

school until fire destroyed one of the buildings in 1915 and the school was closed.

The building stood vacant for ten or twelve years. The Randolph public school system then organized two new departments, agriculture and homemaking, and as they lacked space in their own high school building, they put their new departments in the Chamberlain building. After several years of this use, the Randolph Central School District was organized. It bought the Chamberlain Hill site and, in 1931-32, a beautiful central school was erected on this unusually fine

site. This new building provides excellent schooling for the Randolph territory just as the original Chamberlain Institute did so that Chamberlain Hill still stands as the center of education for that section. In August, 1939, the alumni of Chamberlain Institute at their annual reunion placed a memorial tablet in the new central school for the purpose of suitably marking the site of the old Chamberlain Institute.

A Randolph man named Rev. Charles Strong was chaplain in Sing Sing Prison in 1876. He came to believe that instead of curing crime it was easier and more profitable to prevent it by caring for neglected and vagrant children. He resolved to experiment with this plan and so came home to Randolph and laid his plan before his neighbors and friends. His project met with approval and so he began his experiment in a small way by taking two small dependent boys into his own home in September, 1877. His friends were convinced of the success of his venture and donations began to come in. A governing body was organized and incorporated and in May, 1878, the Strong property about half way between Randolph and East Randolph was bought and the western New York Home for Homeless and Dependent Children was launched.

This home has been carried on without interruption to the present time. It is in charge of a board of trustees who elect an executive superintendent. Many donations have come in so that it now has an endowment fund which helps with the operating costs. If children are placed in the home by court order, a part of their maintenance is charged back to the community from which they come. Sometimes when a home is broken one of the parents pays toward the support of a child in the home.

The school has been so successful that more land has been bought and buildings added until there are now eleven buildings on the 160 acres of farm and campus. The home has a capacity of about one hundred children and it is always filled. Including the superintendent and teachers there are twenty-three adults employed in the management of the home. It maintains its own elementary school of eight grades. The children go to the Randolph Central School for high school work after completing the eighth grade. The present superintendent is Harry Colwell. He has been there for fifteen years and the school has been most successful in his hands.

The history of the common schools in the town of Franklinville parallels that of the schools in the other towns of the county. The

first schools were in private homes. This was followed by the building of log or frame schoolhouses. This series began about 1808 and continued through the usual steps until the whole town was divided into districts with trustees, schools and teachers.

Among the early settlers of the town of Franklinville was an energetic man named Peter Ten Broeck. He conducted a very successful business in lands and cattle. At one time he owned eight thousand acres in the towns of Machias, Farmersville and Franklinville. In buying and selling cattle he often owned as many as one thousand two hundred head.



TEN BROECK FREE ACADEMY, FRANKLINVILLE, 1893

When Judge Ten Broeck died he left the greater part of his estate to found Ten Broeck Academy to provide free schooling for resident students in the towns of Machias, Farmersville and Franklinville. In accordance with his request Ten Broeck Academy was built and incorporated by Act of Legislature in 1867. The endowment was sufficient to build a fine building and completely equip it, including furniture and library.

The school was early designated by the State Education Department as a center for a training class for the training of teachers. In addition to the teachers' course, the classical, the music and art course, and the college preparatory courses were offered.

In 1904 it seemed wise to merge the academy with the public school and it was accordingly converted into a Union Free School by the State Legislature, but still retaining the name of Ten Broeck Academy for the high school department. The elementary school was held in smaller buildings which were added to as more space was required. In 1907 the community voted to build a new elementary school and a new $2,000 brick building was erected on the campus of the Ten Broeck Academy and was opened for use in 1909.

As school population increased more space was needed for high school and in 1914 a proposition was put up to the taxpayers to tear down the Ten Broeck building and to erect a new $6,000 high school building on the site. However, the sentiment was so strong against demolishing historic old Ten Broeck that the proposition lost by an overwhelming majority. Later the proposition passed and, in 1925, the old building was torn down and a new high school building replaced it, which by being attached to the fine grade building which was built in 1909, makes a very satisfactory school plant. It still goes by the name of Ten Broeck Academy, so that the educational ideals of Judge Peter Ten Broeck and his friends have come down to the present time.

South Valley is a large town in the southwestern corner of the county. The first settlement in this town as well as the first settlement in the county was made by Quakers from Philadelphia, who came to this wilderness as missionaries to the Indians. They established this mission on the reservation in 1878. Their attempts to teach agriculture and other civilized arts as well as religion were misunderstood by the Indians, who thought it was a trick to get possession of Indian lands. In order to quiet these fears the Quakers in 1803 bought a large farm on the Tunesessa Creek, just off the reservation. Here they built fine buildings and established a boarding school for Indian children. In this school, practical instruction in agriculture and homemaking as well as instruction in the three R's was given. It being a mission school, of course much attention and emphasis was given to instruction in religion and morals. This school was supported by charity of Philadelphia Quakers without much change for many years and it had a great influence among the Indians in the county.

The graduation exercises in June, at the end of the school year, were an occasion for a big community picnic attended by Quaker friends from Philadelphia as well as numbers of Indian friends from the reservation. With the exception of one or two years it has always been an elementary school. At one time a little high school work was

offered, but was soon discontinued. As the students completed the work of the seventh and eighth grades they went to Salamanca to try State Regents' examinations.

This general plan was continued until about 1938, when it seemed to the supporters of the school that the growth and improvement of nearby schools, the rapid and easy transportation offered by bus, made it unwise to continue this type of boarding school. So, the school as



UNION FREE SCHOOL, GOWANDA, 1893

it was, came to an end and it was transformed into a social, health and recreation center for the reservation with Miss Clare Wilcox in charge and still supported by the Quakers.

During the time when the State Education Department was encouraging and supervising the formation of school districts and common schools among the white people of the county, the department also organized a series of elementary common schools for Indian children distributed throughout the forty-mile length of the Allegany Reservation as well as on the Cattaraugus Reservation near Gowanda. The State Commissioner appointed an officer known as the superin-

tendent of schools on the Allegany and Cattaraugus reservations. There were seven schools on the Allegany Reservation and two on the part of the Cattaraugus Reservation which was in Cattaraugus County. The Cattaraugus Reservation lies partly in Erie County.

This superintendent had authority to appoint teachers, purchase supplies and to exercise general supervision over these schools, responsible directly to the State Commissioner. With the growth and improvement of the State school system, the Indian schools were put



HIGH SCHOOL, OLEAN, 1893

into the State division of special schools and the teachers were required to have teachers' certificates issued by the State Department. Now the teachers are appointed through civil service.

William K. Harrison, of Salamanca, was appointed superintendent in 1895 and served for thirteen years; Miss Emma Wolff followed Mr. Harrison; then Guy E. Merville and at present the schools are in charge of Stanley Johnson, who resides in Salamanca. For years a few Indian children have attended high school at Salamanca, but with increased interest in high school education, greater numbers

of students desired to attend high school. During the time that Miss Wolff was superintendent, a bus system was established to transport high school students to Salamanca High School. The bus brought in children to the west of Salamanca and children to the east came to school on the regular Olean-Salamanca bus. At present, the bus transports children of the seventh and eighth grades as well as high school students to the Salamanca schools. Also at present there are six teachers in the elementary Indian schools on the Allegany Reservation and two on the part of the Cattaraugus Reservation that lies in Cattaraugus county.

Education in Cattaraugus County, of course, has been greatly affected by changes in regulations and policies of the State Education Department. For many years the rural schools throughout the State were under the general supervision of school commissioners elected by the people. With this election plan, oftentimes the commissioner was a politician rather than a person with academic or professional training. Under the leadership of Dr. Andrew S. Draper, the State Commissioner, a new system was enacted by laws of 1910. This new plan divided Cattaraugus County into five supervisory districts with a district superintendent in charge. These district superintendents were required to meet rather high educational qualifications and were elected by school directors for a period of five years.

The first supervisory district is made up of the towns of Yorkshire, Freedom, Machias, Farmersville, Franklinville, and Lyndon. Edward C. Hawley, of Franklinville, is the district superintendent. The second district includes the towns of Humphrey, Ischua, Hinsdale, Allegany, Olean, and Portville. Gilbert A. Farwell, of Hinsdale, is the district superintendent.

The towns of East Otto, Ashford, Ellicottville, Great Valley, Salamanca, Red House and Carrollton comprise the third district, with Grant Walrath, of Salamanca, the district superintendent. The fourth is in charge of Miss Essie C. Babcock, of Cattaraugus, and includes the towns of Perrysburg, Dayton, Persia, Otto, New Albion, Mansfield and Little Valley.

Wallace Ormsby, of Randolph, is in charge of the fifth district, which includes the towns of Randolph, Leon, Conewango, Napoli, Cold Spring, South Valley and Elko.

These district superintendents supervise rural districts and smaller villages with population under four thousand five hundred. There are two city systems in the county: Olean, under Superintendent William C. Greenawalt, and Salamanca, under Superintendent George A.

Place. With the decreasing school population, with the increased interest in education and with the easier transportation it seemed wise to discontinue many rural districts, to combine districts, and to build central schools which could offer better school opportunities. Under the central school law as amended in 1925, three central schools have been built in the county, one at Randolph, one at West Valley and one at Hinsdale.

The State law also allows two or more common school districts to unite to form consolidated common school districts which do not have the rank of union school districts or central schools. There are many of these consolidated districts in the county with the two largest at Red House and East Otto.

This article has attempted to trace briefly the development of the school system from the earliest log schoolhouses scattered at random throughout the wilderness to the present fine system consisting of two city systems, five supervisory districts with their central schools, consolidated schools and common school districts; the system of Indian schools under a superintendent; and St. Bonaventure College with its beautiful campus and fine equipment.

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INDEBTED TO

Charles E. Congdon, Salamanca, New York, editor for Cattaraugus County.

William K. Harrison, Salamanca, New York, former Superintendent of Indian Schools.

Stanley Johnson, Salamanca, New York, present (1939) Superintendent of Indian Schools.

Marc D. Johnson, New York, editor of "Randolph Register."

Edward C. Hawley, District Superintendent at Franklinville.

Grant Walrath, District Superintendent at Salamanca.

Harry Colwell, Superintendent of Randolph Home.

CHAPTER XLVIII

St. Bonaventure College and Seminary

By Rev. Irenaeus Herscher, O. F. M.

It is more than seven hundred years since the Poor Man of Assisi, St. Francis, went to his reward. His sweet spirit and lofty ideals, however, were not buried with him. Through the past seven centuries they have lived on and developed in his spiritual sons and daughters—in the Franciscan Order.

The Franciscans have been known the world over as missionaries, but are equally well known as teachers. We find them engaged in bringing the "glad tidings of Christ" to souls in mission lands, and in breaking the bread for those hungering for knowledge. The history of the medieval universities is intertwined with such famous names as John Duns Scotus, Alexander of Hales, St. Bonaventure, and other Franciscan scholars.

Eager to travel beyond the outposts of civilization to preach to and teach those still ignorant of the life-giving message of Christ, we find the Franciscan Friars not only sponsoring the project of Christopher Columbus, but actually accompanying him on his perilous expedition. Wherever they went they erected not only churches but, at the same time, schools. Patrons of truth and learning, we find them establishing not only the first public school (1524), but also the first college in America (1536).

It should not be surprising either, to find them founding a university almost a century before John Harvard was born. To one of the followers of St. Francis must also be given the credit of being responsible for the coming of the printing press to America. Bishop Juan Zumarraga, a Franciscan, realizing the value and importance of the printing press for the dissemination of truth, the civilization and evangelization of the natives, made the arrangements necessary to bring the press to America, some eighty years before the Bay State Psalm Book was printed in Massachusetts.



(Courtesy of St. Bonaventure College)

ST. BONAVENTURE COLLEGE—DEVEREUX HALL DORMITORY

The eighteenth century witnessed the remarkable work of Father Junipero Serra, the Apostle of California. Between 1769 and 1823 the Indians of California had become a peaceful people, trained in the arts and crafts of the white man. The chain of Franciscan missions, extending for six hundred miles, may be compared to our industrial colleges where the Indians were taught trades along with the fine arts.

Inextricably woven into the colorful history of New York State, and especially western New York, are the brave deeds of the brown-robed sons of St. Francis. Six years after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, Father Joseph de laRoche d'Allion, O. F. M., came to the Niagara region (1626), and was not only the first white man to have seen Niagara Falls, but he is also the first white man to see and write about petroleum in America (1627). Another Franciscan, the well-known Father Louis Hennepin, has left us the first written description of Niagara Falls as he saw them from the point now named after him. A copy of this book entitled "Nouvelle Decouverte" (1697) written by Father Hennepin, and including a sketch of the falls drawn by him, is preserved in the library of St. Bonaventure College, and was on exhibition at the New York World's Fair.

The largest college of the Franciscan Friars in the United States is that of St. Bonaventure, located at Allegany, in southwestern New York. It is the story of this institution of higher learning which is the subject of this paper. Much has been written on the unseen scrolls of the recording Angel about this school and those friars and pioneers who laid the foundations for Christianity and civilization in these parts. Volumes could be written about those who were responsible for bringing the friars here, those generous and far-sighted men who supplied the means necessary for the founding of a college in what was then a forest-covered wilderness.

It may seem unnecessary to tell the story of St. Bonaventure, for the monuments which these pioneers have left are mute testimonials of their untiring labors, testifying: "their works live after them." But there is an inspiring message hidden in the narration of the events which led to the founding of their Franciscan school on the banks of the Allegheny River. We might approach our subject in three different ways. We might tell its story as a material episode in the secular history of our State; but that would be almost like trying to tell the story of a saint without mentioning God. Secondly, we might go to the opposite extreme and give the purely religious history and influence of this school nestled in the hills of Cattaraugus

County. Finally, we might narrate the story as St. Francis himself might tell it; simply, plainly, as but another drama written in the lives of men who sought to bury their own identity in the work of the vineyard.

One of the most important influences to contribute to the opening of western New York State was the building of the Erie Railroad. Since a large percentage of the workmen employed in its construction were Catholics, and as much of the land through this section of the State was owned by Nicholas Devereux, we find this Catholic gentleman desirous of providing spiritual care for these Irish pioneers. Associated with the Holland Company and owner of the Devereux Purchase (a tract of land of some one-half million acres in Allegany and Cattaraugus counties) he planned to fill western New York with beautiful villages and happy homes. It was also his idea to found in the heart of Cattaraugus County a modern Utopia, or model community which he would call Allegany City. This town was to be modeled after the university town of Europe, and a Franciscan educational institution was to be located in the center of the community. It is not too much to suppose that he had heard about those intrepid Franciscan missionaries who had traversed these parts a century or more before the "Iron Horse" had made its appearance. Accompanying the bishop to the Eternal City in 1854 we find him applying for Franciscan missionaries for a threefold purpose: to minister, to preach, and to teach. He offered these friars $5,000 and two hundred acres of land for the new foundation.

From three Franciscan schools in Italy volunteers came forward willing to undertake the task. Two of these friars were professors of theology at or near Rome; another came from Urbino. The little missionary band consisted of three Fathers and one Lay Brother. Rev. Pamphilus da Magliano was the first superior, the founder and later the first president of St. Bonaventure College. A bronze bust of him at the New York World's Fair memorializes the work of this pioneer Franciscan educator.

Landing in New York on June 19, 1855, the little band proceeded directly to Ellicottville, New York, where they began their apostolic labors and initiated their educational endeavors. They were hospitably received by John C. Devereux, who was in charge of his father's land office there. A dwelling place (that of John McMahon) had been prepared for them and the stage seemed set for the drama of the development of St. Bonaventure's College and Seminary. With

the arrival of more friars from abroad, and the completion of preparations, the little community of Franciscans took up its abode in the less pretentious converted schoolhouse purchased for their use by Nicholas Devereux. This small building served as monastery, chapel and school from 1855 through 1859, and is the cradle of St. Bonaventure College. With three students and as many professors, St. Bonaventure's began at Ellicottville in the year 1855 and continued there until the fall of 1859, when the newly erected monastery on the banks of the Allegheny was completed. This site was to be the new home, the permanent location of St. Bonaventure College, which has been fulfilling its "apostolate of the education of worthy citizens for this world and especially for the world to come."

At last some of the hopes of Nicholas Devereux were to be realized. That it was his desire and ambition to establish an educational center at Allegany City may be gathered from the minute book of the board of trustees. Under the date July 17, 1855, we read:

> Know all men by these presents, that in conformity with the provisions of an Act passed in 1848 entitled, "An Act for the Incorporation of Benevolent, Charitable, Scientific, and Missionary Societies," Nicholas Devereux, etc. . . . all being citizens of this State and of the United States, have associated together to establish a Missionary, Scientific, Charitable, and Benevolent Society to be located in the village of Allegany City or in Ellicottville where it now has its beginning, or in both villages in Cattaraugus County. And that the said Nicholas Devereux, etc. . . . further claim that the above-referred-to Society shall be known by the name of, "The Saint Francis Missionary and Benevolent Society";—they also declare that the object of the Society which they thus constitute to establish is to provide for missionary duties in this western part of the State of New York, for aiding the poor and the orphans, and for instructing the ignorant by teaching, as far as means permit, divine and human knowledge, and for no other object. . . .

Actual work on the present college was started in 1856 and the corner stone was laid August 23, 1856, but due to the sudden death of Nicholas Devereux, it was suspended for awhile and renewed the following year. This is evident from the same minute book of trustees, dated February 18, 1857, wherein we read:

> Bishop Timon, Pamphilo da Magliano, John C. and Thomas B. Devereux being present, it was moved by Bishop Timon and afterwards seconded, that a committee of three be appointed to make all necessary arrangements and have full power to make all necessary arrangements, to put up, to erect, a suitable building for a college at Allegany on their land in said town, and push it on to completion as

fast as possible; and also the Rev. Pamphilo, John C. and Thomas B. Devereux should constitute such a committee, which was passed unanimously.

Father Pamphilus planned and superintended the erection of the college building, the while dwelling at the home of John McMahon, whose home was situated about where the present main entrance to the college is located. This, the first college building was forty-five by sixty feet, three stories high with an attic and a basement and cost about $8,000. This was part of the seminary, until fire visited St. Bonaventure's in 1930. Completed in August, 1858, the building was dedicated to the Seraphic Doctor, St. Bonaventure, patron of Franciscan schools, on October fourth of the same year. The minute book again tells us under the date August 27, 1858, that:

At a meeting held this day, at the residence of John C. Devereux: present Rev. Pamphilo, Mary and John C. Devereux. Rev. Pamphilo was elected president pro-tem. The building committee reported that they had erected a large and spacious *college* building, three stories high, 60 by 45 feet, besides a basement and attic, on the land donated by the heirs of the late Nicholas Devereux, at a cost of about eight thousand dollars, the precise sum not yet known since some of the bills are not yet made out, and that the building was completed and ready for occupancy and the committee asked to be discharged.

When the college building was ready for occupancy the Fathers and Lay Brothers moved over from Ellicottville. This community was composed of eight Fathers and six Lay Brothers. It was not until the following year that the college and seminary actually opened with a registration of fifteen students. That very same year saw the foundation of the Community of Sisters by Father Pamphilus. These Sisters have undertaken the education of young women, and have made wonderful progress during these years since their establishment. At present some six hundred members of this flourishing community of Franciscan Sisters are variously engaged in fifty-six schools, academies, high schools and colleges, with a total enrollment of about thirteen thousand students. They also conduct nine hospitals, four homes, two rest houses, two nurses' training schools, and one day nursery, distributed in the eastern states and the British West Indies.

The progress of the college was so rapid, due to the generosity of these pioneer founders and their benefactors, that the year 1860 saw the erection of another building, a distinct monastery. This year also witnessed the first commencement of St. Bonaventure College. Until then, the one building had served as college, seminary and mon-

astery. A chapel later joined the two buildings. With the erection of a distinct monastery building the first edifice was enlarged and remodeled and set apart for students.

The year 1864 witnessed the first graduation exercises, and the election of Father Pamphilus as first president of St. Bonaventure College and Seminary. On June thirteenth of that same year the first American born Franciscan was ordained by Bishop Timon, who had been instrumental in bringing the Franciscans to Allegany.

Although the first registration in the fall of 1859 numbered fifteen students, this number had increased to sixty at the time of the first graduation exercises. The following years showed a healthy growth in every department of both seminary and college faculty and student body.

Fortunately we have a word picture of conditions at St. Bonaventure's at this period of its history. The late Monsignor James J. Bloomer, who attended St. Bonaventure's between 1863 and 1868 thus described the early days at St. Bona's:

> Early in September, 1863, my journey from Buffalo *(via* Dunkirk) to St. Bonaventure's College was one of wonder. The wild condition of primitive forest had been broken into patches, and the settlements were for the most part, temporary. Hills or small mountains were everywhere, yet many pieces of valley broke the monotony.
>
> Arrived at the College, I met about sixty students of all sizes and ages. They seemed to be happy and were enjoying their noon recreation in various ways with unchecked vigor. I entered the class of Philosophy, which numbered four only, and bent myself down to business. The surroundings were not anything like present conditions, but that did not militate against health and contentment. During my five years there was but one case of serious illness among the students, while all annually returned home in perfect health and vigor. I weighed one hundred and fifty-four pounds on the day of my arrival, and by Christmas I had increased it to one hundred and eighty-five pounds. That was a vital consideration there as it ought to be in every institution.
>
> The locality, spacious grounds, pure air and water, and nutritious diet told the story that would be hard to equal anywhere.
>
> Besides, with proper restrictions, there was a liberty that allowed the boys to enjoy their recreations to their hearts' content.
>
> Many were the football games (old style) without hurt or harm, and the way the Cavan (Irish) boys kept the ball lively plainly showed them to be vastly superior at that sport.
>
> The same conditions exist there today, with the addition of all modern equipment for the comfort of the boys. For health, and all that go with it, St. Bonaventure's is in the van. Many characteristics developed among the students so that our winter evenings were spent

in merriment so full of pleasure that we reluctantly answered the bell for night prayers. On St. Francis' day, in 1864, the first fruits of the College were garnered in the two who were ordained priests for the Boston Diocese. The occasion was novel and from miles around came people in all kinds of vehicles—even to the ox-cart.

Rivalry in the sports on the campus often brought to the surface a feeling of determination to win—even at the expense of injury, but the kind, the benevolent look of Father Pamphilus, who was always present, always conquered. The fair decision, the meek priest, the man of God infused into the students a spirit of candor and manliness that shaped their future lives on those lines. . . .

St. Patrick's night's entertainment in the hall at Olean was always a rare treat. It always drew an immense crowd and on several occasions had to be repeated. A drama, lecture, minstrel troupe and funny after-piece composed the entertainment, and the more pretentious stages of the day could display no better talent nor get in return more hearty appreciation, and they deserved it.

When my day came to leave, I never felt so sad or broken. My contentment was supreme, and the love between me and the boys was mutually affectionate. We parted, but for many years mutual courtesies were exchanged showing the strength of friendship's ties.

I visit St. Bona's every year and am ever impressed with the same old spirit of amiable hospitality that entranced me in the days of yore.

The distinction of being one of the youngest, if not the youngest, college president in the history of the United States belongs to the late Diomede Cardinal Falconio, O. F. M., who presided over the destinies of the college at the unheard-of age of twenty-six, when elected its third president. Under his expert management, the college prospered to such a degree that the increased student body necessitated the erection of a distinct college building, which was completed in 1874.

Although the founding fathers were literary men and had brought with them a small library, it was not until 1874 that St. Bonaventure Library was started as a distinct organized unit of the educational institution. Today, due to the generosity and foresight of the Friedsam Foundation, Incorporated, a beautiful new library building stands as a perpetual memorial to the late Colonel Michael Friedsam, of New York City. Formerly housed in Alumni Hall, erected in 1887, the valuable library including incunabula and rare books, is now located in the beautiful fireproof Friedsam Memorial Library, the latest building to be erected on the campus.

The history of St. Bonaventure College would not be complete without mentioning one of the pioneers whose long life was closely associated with it. It was in the year 1873 that Father John Baptist Rosier, O. F. M., first came to Allegany, and he was identified with

the college until his death in 1936. Forming the last living link with the past he was able to give the present generation an actual eyewitness account of the progress of the college.

One of the most important events in the history of the college took place on March 1, 1875, when the Regents of the State of New York granted an academic charter to St. Bonaventure College. From the "Historical and Statistical Record of the University of the State of New York," published 1885 we quote the following addition to the perpetual charter:

> Provided always, and these presents are upon the express condition, that if within the term of five years from the date hereof, the Trustees of the said College do not present to us, the said Regents, satisfactory evidence that they have invested for the use of the said College, funds amounting to at least $100,000, in, etc., or that they have made such other provision to insure the efficient working and permanent establishment of the said College as shall be satisfactory to us, the said Regents, then this charter and all the provisions thereof, may, by a declaration of us, the said Regents, to that purport, to be entered on our minutes, be declared to be absolutely void and of no effect; but if evidence of such investment be so furnished, then and in that event, and on the declaration of us the said Regents, under our common seal and in that behalf, this charter shall thence forth become and be perpetual.

The College is conducted by Brothers of the Minor Order of St. Francis, who are vowed to poverty and devoted to education. Beyond a bare support, they draw nothing from the funds of the College. The Order insures to the College a perpetual succession of competent teachers. Its buildings are commodious and in all respects fitted for the uses of the College. Its library and philosophical apparatus are very respectable. All necessary revenues for the uses of the College are assured. We can see no reason why its petition should not be granted.

Upon this recommendation the charter was made absolute, January 11, 1883.

From the "statistics" published in that same volume we gather the information that the enrollment of the college was 133 students in the year 1875. The following year St. Bonaventure College conferred its first academic degree of Bachelor of Arts upon William J. Kenny, who later became Bishop of St. Augustine, Florida. The college now embraced in its instruction: ecclesiastical, classical, scientific, and commercial courses, with a faculty of thirteen men.

The year 1887 is a memorable one for the reason that the beloved Father Joseph Butler, O. F. M., became the ninth president of the college. During the twenty-four years as regent of the institution great

progress was made due in great part to his great gifts of mind and heart. The first building to be erected during his administration was Alumni Hall, a brick building forty by one hundred feet. The basement was designed for a gymnasium. Here is where those two "giants" of baseball fame (John J. McGraw and Hugh A. Jennings) practiced and perfected bunting, which is said to be one of their contributions to the national pastime. From such humble beginnings and surroundings these two men went forth each spring to play with the "Baltimore Orioles" and helped to make that one of the most famous teams in baseball history. On June 13, 1939, the deeds of these two great ballplayers were commemorated by a special cachet issued from the St. Bonaventure College post office in connection with the Baseball Centennial.

After the erection of Alumni Hall, the need was felt for enlarging the monastery. An extension almost tripling the capacity of the old friary was erected and dedicated in 1892. The monastery was now over three hundred feet long and about fifty feet wide.

Twenty years after receiving its charter from the Regents of New York State the graduating class numbered twenty-one young men. Such was the progress made during Father Joseph's administration that another college building was erected. It was five stories high, and was two hundred by sixty-five feet. This addition to the campus, called Lynch Hall, was completed in 1900, and represented an outlay of some $75,000.

Only a few years after this building was erected a devastating fire completely gutted Lynch Hall (1908). The now-aged president of St. Bonaventure College did not falter, but at once engaged a force of some 125 men to begin restoration of the building. Generous financial assistance by friends near and far, helped to defray a large part of the reconstruction costs, but Father Joseph's days were numbered. His health forced him to resign from active duty, and he went to his reward July 25, 1911. A stone monument stands on the campus as a tribute and memorial to his untiring devotedness to Catholic education and the welfare of the institution over which he presided for over a quarter of a century. At the time of his death the student body numbered 175 collegians and 85 seminarians, while the faculty consisted of thirteen priests and six lay professors. The college plant then consisted of a modern college building, seminary and monastery, church and Alumni Hall.

Some five years after Father Joseph's death, during the presidency of Father Fidelis Reynolds, his successor, a thoroughly up-to-

date gymnasium was built and dedicated to the memory of "Father Joe," as he was called. Father Fidelis' administration (1911-16) saw many of the plans for a greater St. Bonaventure realized. The preparatory school was brought up to educational standards, while the college curriculum was completely reorganized to fit the graduate for university or professional work. The seminary courses were also brought into conformity with the latest decrees regarding the education of ecclesiastical students. In a word, every department of the



(Courtesy of St. Bonaventure College)

ST. BONAVENTURE COLLEGE, DE LA ROCHE HALL

college and seminary was raised to a higher standard, preparing the way for approval of the college by standardizing accrediting agencies.

The next president of St. Bonaventure's was Father Alexander Hickey, O. F. M., who took up his duties in 1916. Like his predecessors the eleventh president had the advancement of education and the college at heart. There also was a steady increase in the enrollment, and addition of new courses during his régime. But the outbreak of the World War prevented many of the plans from being carried out.

A unit of the Reserve Officers Training Corps was also established here during the war.

The present incumbent of the presidency is Father Thomas Plassmann, O. F. M., renowned the world over as a linguist, scholar and writer. He succeeded Father Alexander in 1920, and has since guided the destinies of the growing institution. The multiplication of courses (the current college catalogue lists some four hundred different subjects taught) brought about the division of the entire work of the institution into the following distinct units or groups: language and literature, history and social science, philosophy and religion, as well as science and mathematics groups. Although St. Bonaventure's does not as yet offer complete courses leading to advanced degrees in law, engineering and medicine, students who intend to enter such fields will be fitted in a special way for their future work by a judicious choice of courses to give them the broad cultural background so essential for efficient work in these fields.

The year 1924 saw the college affiliated with the Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools of the Middle Atlantic states. The following year the school was also recognized by the American Medical Association, thus passing another milestone in its steady progress. St. Bonaventure's College is also a member of the Association of American Colleges, the National Catholic Educational Association, and of the Franciscan Educational Conference.

It was soon evident that yet another building was needed to properly accommodate the ever increasing student body. To provide suitable living quarters for the many boarding students, a new dormitory was erected in 1927. This beautiful and imposing building is large enough to accommodate about five hundred students. It is named after Nicholas and Mary Devereux, whose generosity had enabled the Franciscans to found St. Bonaventure College seventy years before.

This modern building was hardly completed a few years when in May, 1930, a terrible fire visited the campus, and wiped out the church, monastery, and seminary buildings. Within a few hours that which had been a reality was only a memory, and the friars beheld the work of seventy-five years reduced to ashes. The entire campus gave mute testimony to the extent of the disaster. But the embers had hardly cooled before the friars, undaunted by the misfortune, laid plans for a still greater St. Bonaventure. With the aid of the loyal alumni and generous friends from far and wide, reconstruction began. By the fall of the same year, a new wing was added to Devereux Hall, and on the site of the former monastery was erected the Father Alex-

ander Hickey Memorial Dining Hall. Architecturally harmonizing with Devereux Hall this beautiful refectory is large enough to seat almost a thousand students, and is modern in every respect.

For the third time within three years, St. Bonaventure was visited by fire in 1933. The clock tower of Lynch Hall, the second oldest building on the campus, was struck by lightning. The property loss on this occasion was estimated at about $50,000, and necessitated the entire renovation of the twenty-five-year-old building. Today this completely reconditioned structure also harmonizes with the other modern campus buildings. It stands as a memorial to Father Joseph de laRoche d'Allion, the Franciscan missionary priest who discovered oil in this region some three hundred years ago. On June 12, 1934, the renovated building was dedicated by Hon. Herbert H. Lehman, Governor of New York State. De LaRoche Hall, as it is now called, houses the administration offices, class rooms, physical, biological and chemical laboratories and the post office.

A miniature or model of the entire group of college buildings now comprising St. Bonaventure College and Seminary was exhibited in the New York State building of the New York World's Fair. It would do the hearts of those pioneers good to see the present group of buildings nestled in the foothills of the Alleghenies. Were they to look down from one of the planes which frequently pass over the campus, they would see no less than fourteen buildings in the group. Where they found wilderness they would see cultivated rolling fields surrounding the four hundred-acre campus whose natural beauty is difficult to excel. They would see, for example, the beautiful library building centrally located between De LaRoche Hall and Father Joseph Memorial Gymnasium. This is a veritable gem in a setting of emerald green, and was dedicated on March 7, 1938. Another recent addition is the Reserve Officers Training Corps building, housing the equipment of the reserve officers training personnel, established on the campus in 1936. At the other end of the campus they would see a beautiful little building, the Music Hall beside old Alumni Hall. At the southeastern portion of the group they would see the central heating plant and laundry building beside the greenhouses. Again, they might see the newly constructed observatory as it stands separated from the other buildings, its silver dome glistening in the sunshine. Tennis courts, the McGraw-Jennings Athletic Field, golf course, and beautifully laid out grounds, lawns and stately trees help to make this one of the most beautiful campuses in this section of the State.

The activities and influence of St. Bonaventure go far beyond the present campus. Ever since its foundation it has grown from a hand-

ful to hundreds of scholars. Its alumni have gone forth far and wide, everywhere leaving the impress of the training they received at the feet of their *alma mater.* Many of these men have attained great prominence in practically every walk of life. In the hearts of all there is a warm spot for St. Bonaventure's. Over one thousand two hundred priests have been ordained from St. Bonaventure Seminary, while many thousands of lay alumni have been graduated from her college halls, but all of them have gone forth imbued with the spirit of the Seraphic Saint of Assisi.

Great men have left the humble halls of their *alma mater,* a credit to their country and their school. Among the prominent men who have been honored by St. Bonaventure College have been: Hon. Herbert H. Lehman, Governor of New York; Alfred E. Smith, former Governor of the same State; former Secretary of Labor, James J. Davis; Supreme Court Justice Frank Murphy; Michael Williams; Joseph Scott; James A. Farrell, former president of the United States Steel Corporation; Patrick E. Crowley, former president of the New York Central Railroad; Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen, of the Catholic University of America; and Franklin Dunham, of the National Broadcasting Company. These and a host of others have been singled out because their lives have been an example and source of inspiration.

Life on the campus at St. Bonaventure includes the experience and adventure of five thousand young men over a period of more than three-quarters of a century. It is the story of work and play, of laying plans, and of dreaming of years to come, and finally going forth into the world as consumers as well as producers of that great social inheritance of man—culture. In this citadel of perpetual youth, the uninterrupted traditions of more than seven centuries provide a priceless asset. During those years the true has been sifted from the trivial, and only those time-honored principles that have ministered to the needs of man throughout the centuries have been perpetuated. At St. Bonaventure College the student will have the opportunity of associating with scholars and professors drawn from many sources who will be certain to broaden his outlook and add to his education.

The faculty at present numbers over fifty members, graduates of some thirty American and foreign universities. The student enrollment has grown from fifteen in 1859 to almost one thousand for the various departments, including the extension and summer sessions. It is worthy of note, too, that an extension unit of St. Bonaventure College was established in Loudonville, New York, in the year 1937. At the invitation of His Excellency, the Most Rev. Edmund F. Gibbons,

D. D., Bishop of Albany, the Franciscan Fathers who conduct St. Bonaventure College, were able to inaugurate Siena College, located in the suburbs of the capital city. Such were the rapid strides of this little offspring of St. Bonaventure College, that on June 17, 1938, the State Board of Regents granted it a charter independent of its parent institution. "Pledged to the ideal of educating the *whole* man, and dedicated to Almighty God under the patronage of St. Bernardine of Siena, Siena College places its future in the goodness and providence of Him whose cause it humbly seeks to promote, and confidently hopes that the success which so far attended its efforts may be a pledge of even greater blessings to come (Bonaventura)."

One meets at St. Bonaventure College a spirit that manifests itself in the friendly greetings exchanged between all the members of this happy group: the brown-robed friar, the lay professor, and members of the student body. This Bonaventure spirit is at the same time intangible and yet contagious and very real. It is that paradoxical combination of modesty and pride, humility and greatness, tolerance and exactitude, where simplicity encompasses and solves the complex. All who have attended St. Bonaventure College take that spirit with them into their various walks of life, and we may even say that a true Bonaventure man may be recognized ever after.

This is but a brief sketch of the growing Franciscan college in Cattaraugus County. For a more lengthy treatment of the subject, the reader is referred to the five-page bibliography published in a recent issue of "Historical Records and Studies" (New York, 1938). Of the hundreds of references listed there, several are very much related to our topic. The writer would suggest the following as supplementary reading, being easily available to those who desire more detailed information about St. Bonaventure College and its history: "Medieval Francis in Modern America" (New York, 1936), by Rev. Adalbert Callahan, O. F. M.; "The Life and Times of Rt. Rev. John Timon," by Charles G. Deuther (Buffalo, 1870); and "The History of the Catholic Church in Western New York," by Rev. Thomas Donohue (Buffalo, 1904).

CHAPTER XLIX

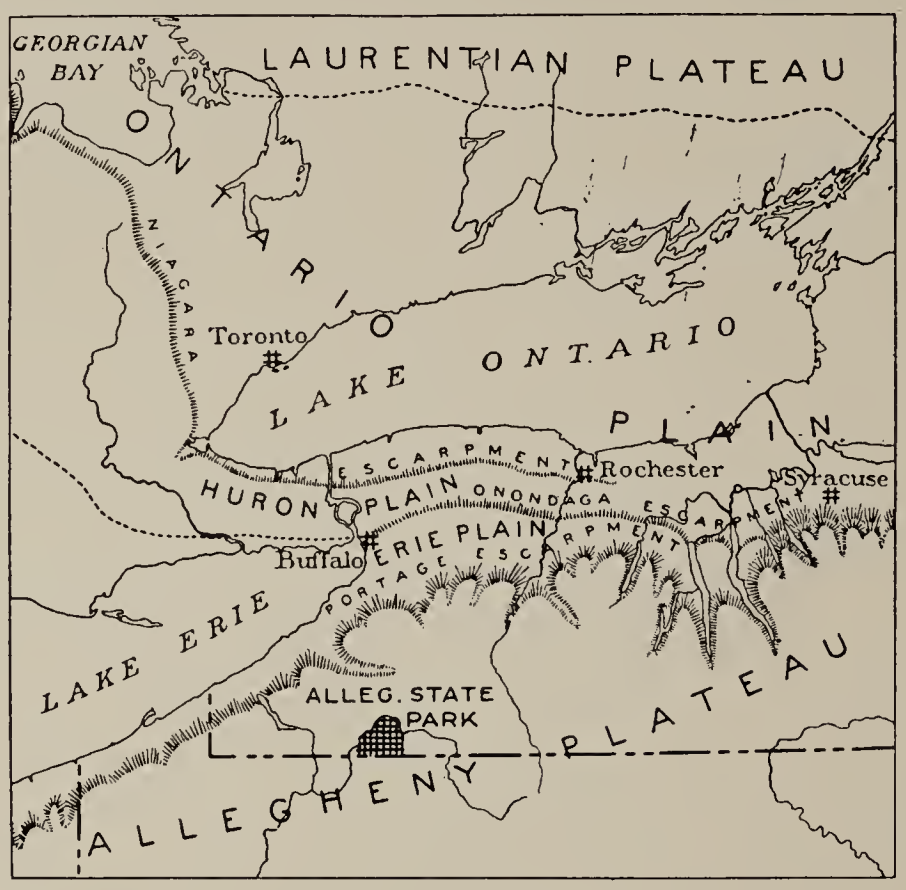
Allegany State Park

By DeHart H. Ames

The inception and early development of the Allegany State Park, largest and one of the most naturally beautiful of New York State parks, were as inconspicuous as the inaugurations of many such fine ventures. In the autumn of 1920 a few persons interested in recreation, wild life, the protection of fish and game, reforestation and the natural sciences, met at the office of the Buffalo Society of Natural Science in the city of Buffalo, New York. Prior to this meeting Hamilton Ward, of Buffalo, long interested in hunting and fishing in southwestern New York, had talked with Dean Moon, of Syracuse University, concerning the establishment of a State park, or preserve, in the southern section of Cattaraugus County. Chauncey J. Hamlin also had taken the matter up with Dr. Charles C. Adams, at that time director of the Roosevelt Wild Life Station at Syracuse, but now director of the State Museum at Albany. Dr. Adams had suggested to Mr. Hamlin that a wild life area ought to be established somewhere in western New York. Mr. Hamlin and Dr. Adams conferred with Dean Moon, of the State College of Forestry, about the possibility of such a project. Dean Moon and Dr. Adams both called to mind a property in Cattaraugus County, owned by the State College of Forestry, and made the suggestion that the area now comprising the Allegany State Park would be suitable for a wild life preserve. In their opinion it was the only area in western New York which would lend itself to such a development. At that time the State owned in this district only twelve hundred acres, a center known as the State Forest Experiment Station or the Theodore Roosevelt Wild Life Forest Experiment Station.

Mr. Hamlin returned to Buffalo and shortly afterwards received a note from Dean Moon, enclosing a copy of a letter which Hamilton

Ward had written, in which Mr. Ward suggested the establishment of a State park. Mr. Ward had independently arrived at the idea that something should be done to create a State park in western New York. After conversing with Harry D. Kirkover and James Savage, of Buffalo, a number of men, including Mr. Ward and Mr. Hamlin, went to Salamanca, picking up Senator A. T. Fancher, of Salamanca, New York, and drove up the old Quaker Run Road as far as Frecks, where they viewed the territory under consideration. They all decided that it was eminently suitable for development as a State park.



As a result of this preliminary work above mentioned, the meeting was held at the office of the Buffalo Society of Natural Science. Presided over by Chauncey J. Hamlin, a resolution was adopted empowering the chairman to appoint a special committee to carry out the various suggestions brought before the gathering. This committee consisted of Mrs. Eli T. Hosmer, Henry W. Hill, Harry D. Kirkover, Richard H. Templeton, James Savage, Hamilton Ward and Albert T. Fancher. There was also an *ex-officio* committee named at this time comprised of representatives of societies interested in wild life, recreation, Girl and Boy Scouts, natural sciences and sportsmen clubs.

The special committee met and organized, with Hamilton Ward as its chairman and Mrs. Thomas Carpenter as secretary. At this meet-

ing the matter of the location for the proposed park was considered and the committee decided to employ one Edward F. Brown, who had been employed formerly by the Palisades Interstate Park, to survey the lands which later were set forth in the bill creating the Allegany State Park. They also adopted a resolution requesting the coöperation of the State School of Forestry, Cornell University and several public-spirited gentlemen from the city of Bradford, Pennsylvania. (These men at that time believed that they could interest the State of Pennsylvania in joining with New York in the creation of an Interstate Park. It later developed that, on account of the activity of the National Forestry organization in purchasing lands adjoining the park lands in New York, it would be impossible to create such a park. They continued, however, to give such assistance as they could to promote the park in Cattaraugus County.)

Mr. Ward, chairman of the special committee which drafted the bill creating the park, watched carefully over amendments and its passage through the Legislature, giving much time to this at his own expense. The bill was introduced in the Senate by the then State Senator from the Fifty-first District, DeHart H. Ames, and in the Assembly by Joseph A. McGinnies, then the member of Assembly from the Second Chautauqua District. The following will indicate the interest manifested in this measure: It was introduced in the Senate on January 18, 1921, amended several times and passed by the Senate on April 15th. Sent over to the Assembly, it was approved on the eighteenth day of April, signed by Governor Nathan L. Miller on May 2, and became Chapter 468 of the Laws of 1921.

The Governor appointed the following men as the original commissioners: Albert T. Fancher, of Salamanca, for five years; Chauncey J. Hamlin, of Buffalo, for four years; Fred G. Kaiser, of Dunkirk, for three years; George C. Diehl, of Buffalo, for two years; and Hamilton Ward, of Buffalo, for one year. The creation of the Park Commission was by recess appointments of the Governor and, upon the convening of the Senate for the year 1922, the appointments were sent to the Senate and confirmed on the seventeenth day of January, 1922. These gentlemen had the responsibility for the organization and management of the park. They met at the office of Commissioner Fancher at the city of Salamanca on June 11 and organized by electing Mr. Fancher as chairman and Mr. Kaiser as secretary. After disposing of routine business, they adopted a resolution to invite the aid of the State Engineer, State Conservation Commissioner and the State College of Forestry to aid them in developing the new park.

They also decided on the Salamanca Trust Company as depository for their funds. On the eighteenth day of June, the commission entered into a contract to purchase from one Mrs. Eloise Knupp a tract containing about seven thousand acres and an adjoining tract of one hundred and fifty acres from the Jamestown Club. On this land were located the old buildings formerly used by the Wright and Miller Lumber Company. These consisted of fifteen shanties and other structures which the commission immediately converted into camps and storehouses so that developments might get under way at once. By the strenuous activity of the chairman and his fellow-commissioners they were able to open the park to the public and prepared to care temporarily for visitors.

The opening celebration was held on the thirtieth of July, 1922, only fifty days after the day of the first meeting of the commissioners. It was estimated that five thousand people were in attendance at this time, coming from Buffalo, Rochester, Pittsburgh, Syracuse and the surrounding local territory. Hon. John Woodward, of Fredonia, delivered the principal address. From this time until the close of the session on Labor Day it was estimated that over twenty thousand visited the park area. With the creation of the State Council of Parks and the approval of the bond issue for parks, the commission acquired large tracts of the remaining lands in the area until in 1930 it had purchased over fifty thousand acres and since then several parcels have been added.

The Legislature at the session of 1923 increased the number of commissioners to seven, Governor Alfred E. Smith naming John P. Sullivan, of Buffalo, and John B. McCabe, of Salamanca, as the two new commissioners. The new Act also provided that each commissioner should serve a term of seven years. The State bond issue of 1924 was based on $2,000,000 for the Allegany State Park Commission. The commission was able, through the activity of its chairman, to secure much useful material from the government, such as excess war supplies, consisting of cots, benches, tents, wool blankets, trucks and stone crushers as well as other machinery for the building of roads, also telephone trench wire which enabled the connection of the various camps and ranger headquarters.

The area formally decided upon for the location of the park is bounded on the north and west by the Allegany Indian Reservation, on the east by the right of way of the Erie Railroad, and on the south by the State line of Pennsylvania. It includes portions of the towns of Carrollton, Cold Spring, Elko, Great Valley, Red House, Salamanca

and South Valley, situated in the southern part of Cattaraugus County, containing an area of practically sixty-five thousand acres.

This area was practically a semi-wilderness with some virgin timber; other portions were under cultivation by farmers. The population of the area had greatly diminished after the lumbermen had ceased to operate and was fast growing into a wilderness. There were many good trout streams, several high elevations ranging from 2,375 feet, at the summit south of the city of Salamanca, to 2,465 feet above sea level near Limestone.

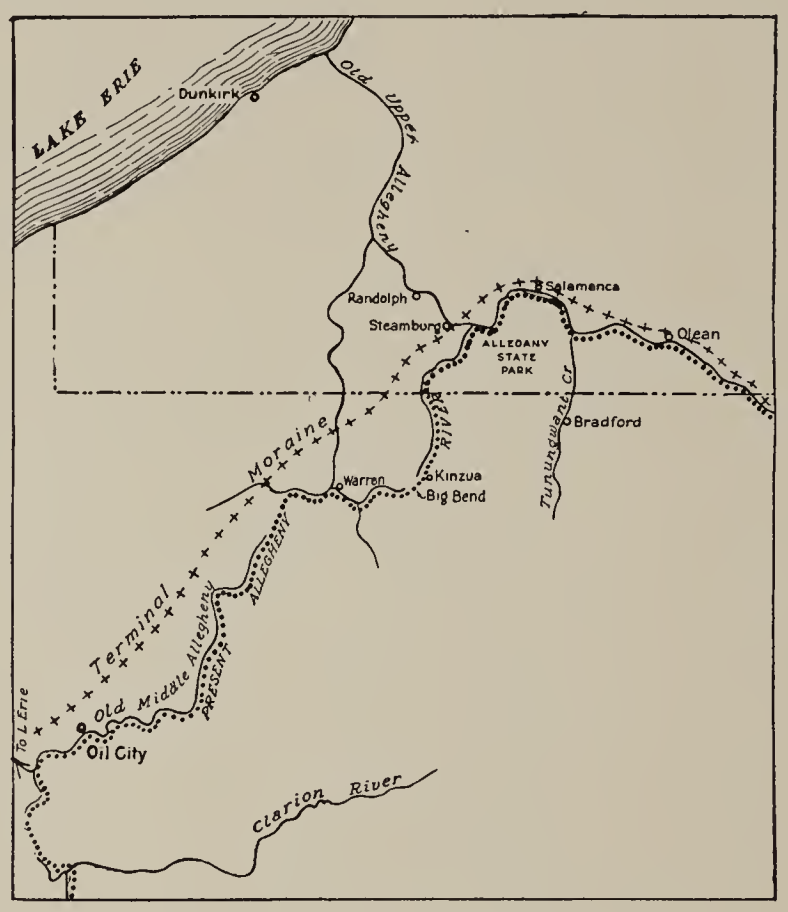
It was realized that this area would be easily accessible as there was the Pennsylvania Railroad which traversed its northern bounds, with the Erie Railroad bounding it on the north and east, and the then Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railway, now the Baltimore and Ohio, connecting the three largest cities which would be natural feeders for the park.

The first individual wood cabin was erected on Quaker Run by one Louis G. Schlehr, of Buffalo. He purchased a knocked-down cabin and, from this early start, there are now some four hundred single and double cabins in the area, some equipped with electric lights, etc. These are rented by the day, week, month and year to desirable campers. There are also twenty-eight trail camps and fifteen group camps.

Early in the development there were small dams placed in Quaker Run and Red House creeks to create swimming pools for the visitors and regular group camp children, as well as a larger pool from the old mill pond; at Camp Fancher, there was a concrete pool completed which was over-taxed until the lake was finished at the Buffalo Museum of Science Camp by placing a large dam across Quaker Run at that point. This lake covered seven acres, but the demand was still so great that the Fancher Pool was reconstructed and enlarged and a filtration plant placed so as to make it perfectly safe for a larger number of patrons. Now, with the 116-acre lake in the Red House district, there are ample bathing facilities for all. There was also created a bathing pool for each of the group camps so that they might have more privacy.

In the year 1927, a contract was let for the erecting of an administration building in Big Red House, and the erecting of a large dam across the valley which created the lake heretofore mentioned. This dam carried a roadway to the Administration Building, where the principal offices of the commission are located, as well as ample facili-

ties for the general public to gather, with restaurant, refreshment stands, several permanent dwellings for the employees who are there the year around, and a large garage. There are large and ample picnic grounds over the whole park area furnished with tables, running water, electric lights, comfort stations and playgrounds equipped for the youngsters. There are general stores located in both the camping areas, bath houses, amusement buildings, camp renting offices. Early in the use of the park for camping, spring water was used; then it became necessary for the protection of health to drill wells for the



water supply, and still later, water was taken from the twin springs on Quaker and piped to all the camping sections, creating a gravity system. One well was drilled four hundred feet, but the water was not approved and, therefore, abandoned.

In the Red House section, the water supply is derived from deep wells operated by electric pumps and piped to storage tanks, from which it flows by gravity to the several camps, the Administration Building, the dwellings, picnic ground and camps. There also has been established a pumping station at the lake with pipe lines to the Administration Building for fire protection and emergencies.

Sanitary conditions have been carefully looked after with the erection of incinerators for the disposal of garbage, sewer disposal plants

for the sewerage, and septic tanks at all the camps. There have been erected several steel observation or fire towers on the higher elevations in the area to aid the rangers in locating forest fires and for the pleasure of the visiting public so that they may secure an extensive view of the whole area.

Electric lines were first connected in the park area in 1925 and since that time have been extended over practically the whole camping section. The original telephone system consisted of trench wire strung as was necessary from tree to tree, but later a commercial system was installed which now reaches all camping sections of the park and connects the observation towers and the Bell Company service.

In the early days of the park the dirt roads were at many times, especially in the fall and spring seasons, impassable, but they have been improved to such an extent that about ninety-six miles of dirt road are in condition for motor travel, together with some five or more miles of hard surfaced roads.

Many thousand trees were planted early in the development of the park area and a large number have been planted each year until many hundred acres are showing a strong new forest of evergreens, which is of great interest to the camping visitors.

There is much of the historic and romantic connected with the region of Allegany State Park. Étienne Brulé, bold adventurer, scout and interpreter for the famous Samuel de Champlain, was probably the first white man to visit this section. Joseph de la Roche d'Allion Franciscan friar, who in 1626 discovered the Seneca Indian Oil Spring, near Cuba, evidently came a few miles farther south to the foothills of the present State Park. Then there were LaSalle, Captain Céleron and others of the French from Canada who explored southwestern New York. Possibly an enjoyable thrill to those who camp within the park is the knowledge that it was once the hunting grounds and a sanctuary for Indians of nearly three centuries ago. Its territory was just beyond the "Western Gate" of the Iroquois Nation, held by the Senecas. In 1654-56, this tribe and the Onondagas literally destroyed the Eries, or Cat Nation, of Indians. A few Eries survived for a time hidden among the hills now hiked over by parties of campers.

At the present day the park is bounded on the west, north and part of the east by the Allegany Indian Reservation, where about three thousand Indians now live. They have their own government and continue to carry on their old-time industries—farming, basket weaving, bead work, rustic furniture and the gathering of medicinal herbs, all of which provide unending interest to visitors.

The home of the noted Indian medicine man, Rolling Thunder, was located within the park area. The grave of one of the greatest Seneca chiefs, Blacksnake, is situated near the mouth of Robinson Run. It is claimed that Colonel Samuel Brodhead, in his expedition against the Iroquois during the Revolution, crossed the Allegheny River near the present entrance to the park. Only a few Indian names have survived, however, and these in connection with the numerous small streams flowing into the area, such as Tuna-gu-want Creek (there are various spellings), which is supposed to come from a term used by the Indians which sounded like "Turn and go on." Wolf Run got its name from the Wolf Clan of the Senecas who camped often on this stream.

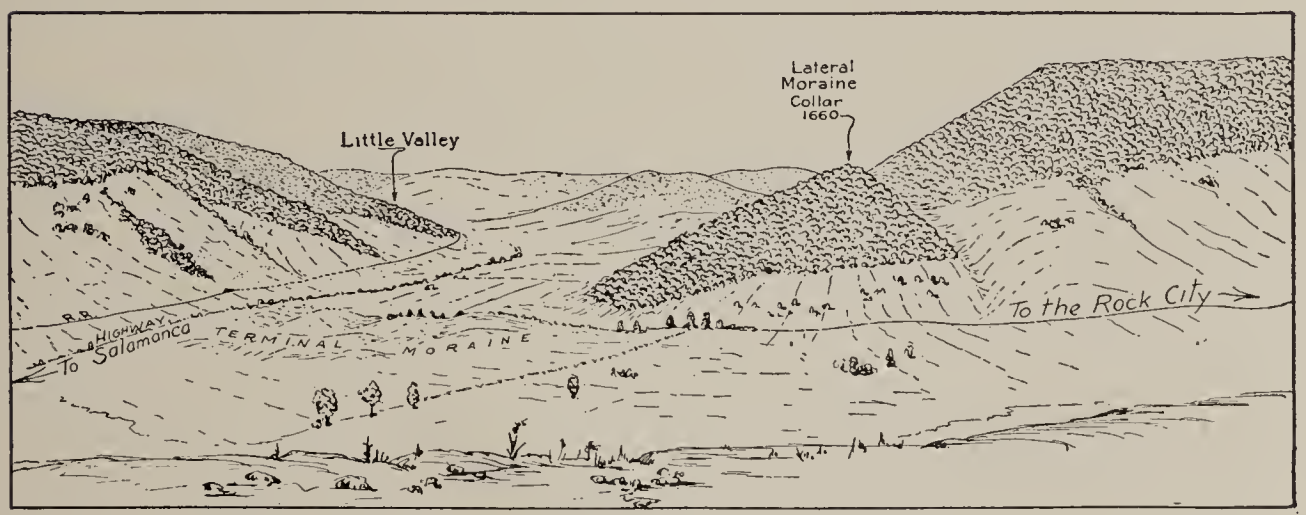
As is to be expected, local names derive more from pioneer settlers. Well-known Quaker Run was so called because certain Quakers came from Philadelphia, at the behest of Cornplanter, a chief of the Senecas and friend of General George Washington, to teach the Indian the white man's ways. This was in 1798 and certain Philadelphians started a settlement at Quaker Run in 1805. Red House was so called by lumbermen who early rafted logs down the Allegheny River because of a glaring red building erected at a bend. Among the streams named from old settlers are: Stoddard, McIntosh, Francis, Cain, Holt, Bova, Breeds, Rice, Irish and a number of others.

It is probable that the present-day generation is more interested in the fact that the many streams are becoming increasingly well stocked with trout and other fish, and in the forests of the park, because they are the meeting place of southern and northern verdure, contain a most unusual variety of growths. The sportsman will enjoy hearing that the high and low elevations of the territory not only lend themselves to camping grounds, but to the increase of such game animals as the black bear, red deer, wildcat, fox, raccoon, squirrels, rabbits, partridge, grouse, and an exceptional range of wild life. Allegany State Park has a broad appeal to people of many classes. It must be seen to be appreciated.

The brilliant scientist, A. K. Lobeck, Ph. D., whose "Popular Guide to the Geology and Physiography of Allegany State Park" remains standard, although published in 1927, brought to an end this "Guide" with certain "hints" to visitors, the final of which was:

"Beyond all these things in the matter of equipment is the kind of heart and soul you take with you into the open. There must be something about you which is satisfied only by being a vagabond of this kind. I look back upon my every moment spent in this manner with

the keenest kind of satisfaction. In my memory I cherish many little nooks and corners the world over, in the woods, in the mountains and on ocean shores, just off the beaten track. In June my heart goes somewhere to the northern Rockies where I know there is a bank of melting snow. The grass around it is oozy and soft. Close to the snow it is still yellow from having been so long deprived of the light. But a few feet away it is green and luscious and carpeted with one great glorious outburst of yellow lilies. The melting snow runs off in all directions and here one may feast his soul and live a few rapturous moments of ecstasy. And I know a place along a beach in the Caribbean where I am sure no one else has ever strayed, a little palm-fringed cove where the gods themselves might sport in luxury. A



plunge into these emerald waters is a baptism of everlasting youth. In the brilliant unending monotony of a tropic noon time stands still. And so, in like manner, I have discovered a nook in Allegany Park which I call my own. In the silent retreat of the woods, I hold close to my heart a certain quiet refuge. There are doubtless many corners more beautiful, many trees more grand, other spots richer in their floral beauties, but I came upon this in a moment when it captivated my fancy. To others it would mean nothing. It would be just another piece of the woods. But to me the rapture that surrounded the first moment of discovery still hovers about it. And I think it is the same with books. Let not others choose for us the masterpieces of literature. To me the wealth of thought and beauty of diction which cling to my memory are those passages which I have discovered for myself. I deem myself fortunate in my wanderings to have added to the treasures of my memory a little nook in Allegany Park, unspoiled and beautiful, and I suppose, like the other dream spots of

the world, I shall remain homesick until I am privileged to see it once again."

Commissioners of Allegany State Park

Albert T. Fancher, of Salamanca, New York, commissioner from June 1, 1921, until his death March 20, 1930. Mr. Fancher was chairman of the commission from its organization until his death.

Hamilton Ward, of Buffalo, New York, commissioner from June 1, 1921, until January 17, 1930.

Chauncey J. Hamlin, of Buffalo, New York, commissioner from June 1, 1921—. Mr. Hamlin has been vice-chairman during the entire period.

Fred G. Kaiser, of Dunkirk, New York, commissioner from June 1, 1921—. He was secretary of the commission from June 1, 1921, to March 20, 1923.

George C. Diehl, of Buffalo, New York, commissioner from June 1, 1921, until January 17, 1937.

John P. Sullivan, of Buffalo, New York, commissioner from 1923 until 1929. He was secretary of the commission from March 20, 1923, to April 5, 1929.

John B. McCabe, of Salamanca, New York, commissioner from 1923 to March 7, 1927—resigned.

William T. Noonan, of Rochester, New York, commissioner from 1927—.

William J. Weller, of Ellicottville, New York, commissioner from 1930—.

George H. Ansley, of Salamanca, New York, commissioner from January 17, 1929, to January 17, 1936. He was secretary of the commission from April 5, 1929, to January 17, 1936.

Thomas H. Dowd, of Salamanca, New York, commissioner from January 17, 1936—. Mr. Dowd was secretary of the commission from June 29, 1936, to date.

William H. Ryan, of Buffalo, New York, commissioner from January 17, 1930—. He was chairman of the commission from the time of the death of Mr. Fancher to the present time.

Christopher Baldy, of Buffalo, New York, commissioner from January 17, 1937—.

DeForest A. Matteson acted as the first executive secretary and was followed by Henry R. Francis, of Syracuse, New York, who had been deeply interested in the park and was connected with the School of Forestry at Syracuse.

CHAPTER L

A Historical Sketch of the Allegany School of Natural History

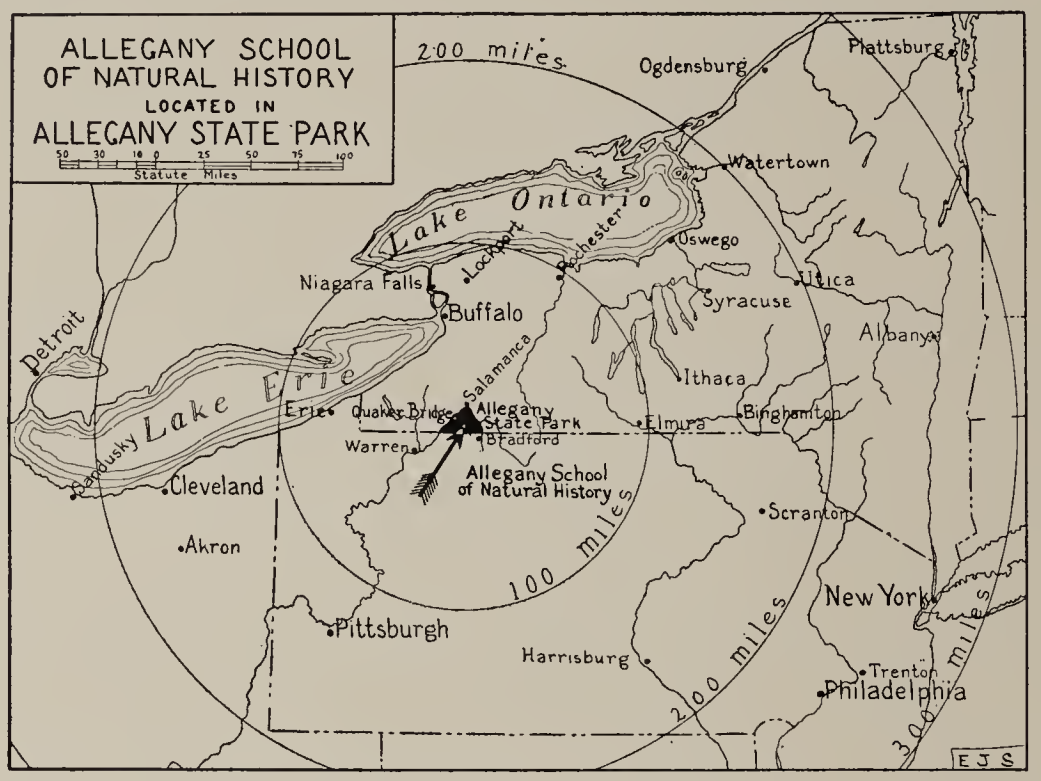
By Dr. Charles C. Adams, Director New York State Museum and Former Director Roosevelt Wild Life Forest Experiment Station, New York State College of Forestry

Introduction—The people of the United States are spending millions of dollars each year on State and National Parks. In this the United States leads the world in its National Parks and New York State in its State Parks. That this is money well spent is attested by the millions of people who eagerly frequent these parks and who support them financially.

The National parks are primarily an outgrowth of efforts to protect and to prevent private exploitation of the magnificent scenery of the West, and to pass these regions on "unimpaired" to future generations. In recent years historic sites or parks have been added to the system, so that today the protection of nature, promoting its appreciation, and the appreciation of our historic memorials, supplemented by the recreational uses caused by the millions of visitors, are the major obligations and duties of our National Park Service. An ideal policy would be the proper balance between all these uses in both National and State Parks. To maintain this standard will be indeed a difficult undertaking, as the parks should be provided with skilled technical officials and freed from political spoils, if this ideal is to be approximately secured and maintained. Much educational work is needed to accomplish this purpose and the schools must do their share in the process. Today the schools live in isolation and make little use of the State parks.

In order to understand the history of the Allegany School of Natural History it is necessary to sketch the history of *two* State agencies which helped to lay the foundation for this park and the

school. The New York State College of Forestry was established in 1911, and upon a broader foundation than preceding colleges in this field. It looked forward to the diversified use of non-agricultural land, which since that time has been extensively publicized as "multiple use," and several important new developments were destined to develop from this newer social approach. (Adams '16, '26.) Educational work and scientific studies from this standpoint have opened up new problems for study of considerable social significance. At the time that the Allegany State Park was established the forestry profes-



sion generally was dominated by economic standards and ideals, for the production of lumber primarily, and other uses were often slighted or frowned upon. That there were direct social values in the use of non-agricultural lands was not considered very seriously as, for example, the recreational, wild life or the educational aspects. Parks were not looked upon as a forestry problem because they were not growing timber. The idea of diversified use, so frequently urged for agriculture, was not generally applied to forest land, in spite of the fact that it was considered good politics to stress the idea that forestry was a part of agriculture, and in spite of the fact that plowing forest land was not a regular farm procedure!

In order to expand the broader aspects of land use, so as to include the wild life, plans for research were made and presented to former President Theodore Roosevelt in December, 1916, because of his

lifelong interest in such matters. He heartily approved of the plans, but as the World War began, the plans were left in abeyance for the duration of the war. Following the death of Colonel Roosevelt, in February 1919, it was proposed that the State College of Forestry request the Legislature to make this plan a memorial to Roosevelt, thus commemorating his work for conservation, forestry and wild life. This was authorized in May 1919, and thus the second agency was established which assisted in the establishment of the Allegany State Park, and a new foundation was laid for future wild life work in both forests and in parks.



THE SCHOOL BUILDING OF THE ALLEGANY SCHOOL OF NATURAL HISTORY CONDUCTED IN THE ALLEGANY STATE PARK

As a result of this broader approach the naturalists of the college spent the summers of 1918 and 1919 in making scientific and educational studies of plants and animals in the Palisades Interstate Park on the Hudson River, and thus became familiar with the problems of this leading camping park, which had been developed under the leadership of George W. Perkins and Edward F. Brown. (Silloway and Brown '20.)

Thus, when in the spring of 1920 Chauncey J. Hamlin, President of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, called at Syracuse to inform himself of the activities of the Roosevelt Wild Life Station, being an ardent admirer of Theodore Roosevelt, a prolonged conference resulted, during which the urgency of wild life and the park needs

of western New York were presented to him by Professor Henry R. Francis and myself. We stressed the diversified use of forest land. Mr. Hamlin decided to do something about it. On returning to Buffalo he enlisted the support of Hamilton Ward and a number of others, including A. T. Fancher of Salamanca, and as a result of this western New York support, in May 1921, the Legislature authorized the Allegany State Park Commission. (Further historical details can be found in the "First Annual Report of the Commission of the Allegany State Park for 1921," which was written by Professor Francis and Edward F. Brown ('22). Cf. also Adams '21, and p. 385, and Ward '22.)

As soon as the sixty-five thousand-acre park was established the Roosevelt Station began, in the summer of 1921, with the coöperation of the park commission and Mr. Hamlin, a natural history survey of the park. Later, in the fall of 1922, I submitted to Mr. Hamlin a general plan for an outdoor school of natural history to be conducted in the park at college grade, where able naturalists would teach and at the same time conduct their scientific studies of the park. The Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences had been conducting a summer camp for its members in the park since 1921 (Cummings '22, '23), so it was natural to suggest a combination of these two projects. Such a plan, however, did not develop until 1926, when I became director of the New York State Museum. At that time Mr. Hamlin proposed to the Regents of the University of the State of New York that they authorize the coöperation of the New York State Museum, and I was made responsible for the educational policy of the school. ("Jour. Board of Regents," Dec. 6, 1926, p. 554.) About twenty-five years of zöological teaching in colleges and in universities, with emphasis on outdoor ecological work, was the foundation for my experience in this field.

We thus see from the foregoing, that the existence of the State College of Forestry and the Roosevelt Wild Life Station were antecedents, that in part assisted in the establishment of the Allegany State Park and the Allegany School of Natural History. This was the first school of its kind which has been actively engaged in this field of the outdoor teaching of natural history for a period of ten years in any State Park, and none in any National Park has been of strictly college grade. The school is thus a unique experiment in objective education and is a deliberate effort to relate the school system of the State to the State Park system. Ultimately there should be several of such schools in order to meet the needs in various parts of the State.

The School and the Camp—The School, as authorized by the Regents, was to be conducted by the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, in coöperation with the New York State Museum. As previously mentioned the Society had conducted a summer Camp for its members in the Park. The students and staff of the School were thus able to board at this Camp. The Buffalo Society provided the Camp officials and one teaching staff member, also clerical help. The State Museum provided naturalists who gave a certain amount of time to



OPEN-AIR MUSEUM AT THE ALLEGANY SCHOOL OF NATURAL HISTORY

the teaching in return for their board and lodging, including the salary of the director for the first season; after that it was paid from the student fees. These naturalists gave most of their time to the intensive study of a special problem within the park, such as the geology, the botany, and the birds. The results of these studies by the staff and students have, in part, been published by the State Museum in its "Bulletins," "Handbooks" and "Circulars," and in "Hobbies," by the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, and by individuals in various magazines. These publications have been available for teaching in the school, and have often had a direct bearing on the technical problems involved in the administration of the Park, such as the water supplies,

oil, gas, road materials, the plants and animals of the Park, and their care.

The Scientific Studies—The scientific studies by the State Museum were a part of its regular duties of studying the natural resources of the State, on which it and its antecedents had been engaged since 1835. The facilities of the school in providing field laboratories and the living quarters in the field, were very favorable for intensive field study.

As a result of these studies, covering a period of active coöperation in the park for ten years, and for nine years in which the State



INTERIOR VIEW OF THE OPEN-AIR MUSEUM AT THE ALLEGANY SCHOOL OF NATURAL HISTORY

Museum was responsible for the educational policy, more reports have been published on the natural resources and natural history of the park than any other similar park in America, and these publications have done much to make the park well known throughout the United States wherever there is an active interest in parks.

It was only by making the instruction at the school of college grade that it was possible to secure and to hold a teaching staff of the high quality that has been maintained. The teachers and naturalists have been picked from all over eastern United States. They were in general not only capable naturalists, but enthusiastic teachers who

believed in and practiced outdoor teaching, of a kind that cannot be duplicated or given at urban colleges. These teachers were able to use the fresh facts, which they were discovering from day to day and were not dependent on stale textbooks, and the students had publications to use which were based on local scientific investigations.

The staff chosen was also of a kind who could provide an atmosphere for the school on a high plane, a friendly one, and the students were in direct contact with men and women of character and ability. The maximum capacity for the students was set at fifty, so that the classes should remain small. Should it grow beyond this limit a new unit was to be established. In addition, I believe that it would be wise to revive the instruction on parks, and even to expand it as a practical field training for park officials.

Unique Features of the School—The unusual or unique features of the school are its location, in a large, wild, forested State park, with deer, bear, raccoon, porcupine, foxes, a great variety of birds and other small animals, and finally large forests of huge white pines, hemlock, beech and maple, traversed by beautiful streams.

The facilities, in the form of laboratories for teaching and the living quarters, were such as to enable the student to do his or her work satisfactorily and in comfort. Two students lived in each cabin. During July and August the student was allowed to pursue only two subjects, and all-day classes was the regular procedure, and not the usual system of short periods with frequent interruptions. The laboratory equipment was ample and the library was carefully selected to include in addition to the technical books and maps needed, the outstanding popular literature as well, so that the student could acquire a broad approach to his studies, including the æsthetic.

Students studying at such a school have laid a sound foundation for learning how to get acquainted with any other locality in which they later come to live and work. Such a training is of great value to the isolated student or teacher.

The subjects taught were outdoor geology and physiography, field or ecological botany, ecology of birds, general zöology and nature study. The first year of the school included a course on the park itself. Primary emphasis was laid upon using local materials and resources in all the teaching.

The students were mainly men and women who were teachers or students in schools and colleges, amateur naturalists, or naturalists seeking the local facilities for their own studies.

After nine years of successful coöperation with the State Museum the Regents decided to allow the whole responsibility of the school to be given to the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, and it has since been so conducted except during the ten years the State Museum provided some coöperation.

And what about the results of the school from the standpoint of the student? This is indicated in part by sample extracts from unsolicited letters received by Dr. Coker, as follows:

More than once my memory has strayed back to Allegany and my "little cabin in the woods." It was due largely to the knowledge that



A STUDENT CABIN AT THE ALLEGANY SCHOOL OF NATURAL HISTORY IN ITS WOODLAND SETTING. TWO STUDENTS LIVED IN EACH CABIN

I acquired there that I was able to pass the New York City Junior and Senior High School Field Trip Tests for teachers of biology. I am very grateful to you and the rest of the school for this.—M. K.

I have just written in reply to a request to talk to a mother's group, in their 1932-33 program, on some phase of nature. If I do meet them, it will be Allegany spirit that I shall try to pass on. Spurred on by that course in Geology, I took a course this winter in Rocks and Minerals. . . . . Many times through this extremely busy year I have realized that I could not have carried it through as I did had it not been for that month of pure enjoyment at the Allegany School.—E. A. H.

I often think with pleasure of the weeks I spent in Allegany State Park and this year, during my weeks of enforced idleness, I reread

all my notes made during that summer. The work there aroused my interest in the ecological aspect of biology and has had a marked influence on my teaching both as to topics and attitude.—G. M.

I have thought about camp a great deal and would enjoy nothing more than another summer with you. I still feel that the finest vacation I ever had was spent at Allegany two years ago, so you can see how I feel about the camp.—H. L. S.

I am now very busy trying to teach forty people of the below average rating. I enjoy it despite their rank, and though we have just begun I have had the opportunity to use some of the information I received while at Allegany this summer.—G. S.

I am glad to know that the school is doing so well, especially in these days of depression. No doubt it is due to the delightful personality of those in charge. There certainly is a spirit there that makes life at the school very enjoyable.—E. M.

I came to the Allegany School of Natural History because I was attracted by the printed announcement. I am very glad I came. I have no criticisms to make. It seems to me that the entire school, in all its features, is conducted in splendid fashion. My aim in coming was probably not that of the average student. I was not interested in getting credit or doing any set work in connection with the courses. I have gained a great deal in a very pleasant and leisurely way. It's a fine place for a tired school teacher with a biological bias to spend her vacation. I hope that the privilege may continue to exist for such without lessening the charm of the school for younger students.—M. E. P.

My courses at the Allegany School of Natural History in 1929 were taken with this very trip in mind. I hope to observe, photograph, and sketch all along the way, and when I return, like Sinbad the Sailor, or Robinson Crusoe the Castaway, the year's experiences, vicissitudes and adventures will be material I can draw on for a long time.—A. E. Z. (Artist.)

I can sincerely say that no whole summer has ever been happier or more completely satisfactory than the one spent there.—E. S.

The School and Coöperation—The Allegany School is the outgrowth of a considerable amount of coöperation between various agencies and individuals. The rôles of the State College of Forestry, the Roosevelt Wild Life Station, the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, and the Commissioners of the Allegany State Park have been mentioned. Certain individuals deserve special mention, such as Chauncey J. Hamlin, Hamilton Ward, A. T. Fancher, James C. Brennan, Charles E. Congdon, and J. M. Holt, who have made positive

contributions to the Park and thus to the School. To Dr. Hugh P. Baker, the former Dean of the State College of Forestry, is largely due credit for the broad policy of the college, and for supporting the establishment of the Roosevelt Wild Life Station; and to Regent William P. Baker for his championing the coöperation of the State Museum with the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences.

The Roosevelt Wild Life Station began scientific studies before the school was established that aided the school, such as Mr. Saunders' study of the birds, and Dr. W. C. Kendall's and W. A. Dence's detailed studies of trout ("Roos. Wild Life Bul.," Vol. I, No. 3, and Vol. IV, No. 3), and the State Museum naturalists Dr. A. K. Lobeck, Dr. S. C. Bishop, W. J. Schoonmaker and Dr. H. D. House, who were working there the season before the school was established. The following is a list of the naturalists and teachers who were financed wholly or in part by the State Museum during the ten-year period of coöperation: Dr. Gordon I. Atwater, Jr., Charles Brewer, Jr., Dr. S. C. Bishop, Dr. Robert E. Coker, Dr. G. Arthur Cooper, Dr. F. W. Emerson, Dr. Robert B. Gordon, Dr. L. E. Hicks, Dr. H. D. House, Dr. L. A. Kenoyer, Dr. A. K. Lobeck, Aretas A. Saunders, W. J. Schoonmaker, Dr. A. C. Tester, and Frederick T. Thwaites.

W. P. Alexander was delegated by the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences to teach nature study at the school. He conducted field excursions at the Buffalo Camp before the school was established; and Miss Esther Eno has given excellent, almost continuous service as secretary and as a very capable voluntary leader in recreation. Mr. Alexander laid out, in 1921, the first natural history trail in the park, with detailed labels (Bishop '28) at the Buffalo Society Camp. Similar trails had been laid out, but without the detailed labeling, in the Palisades Interstate Park at Hemlock Mountain, by our naturalists in 1918 (Cf. Silloway and Brown '20; Adams '21b). Some authors are not acquainted with these facts (Cf. Coleman, L. V., "Contributions of Museums to Outdoor Recreation," p. 26, 1928). Soon after the Allegany School was established, a similar natural history trail was laid out at the school, by Mr. Alexander, as well as a garden of the plants used by the Indians.

It is a pleasure to mention particularly the services of Dr. Robert E. Coker, who was Director of the school during the nine years for which I was responsible for the educational policy, and Mrs. Coker as Dean of women, because of the cordial relations which existed throughout, and for the sympathetic attitude and home-like atmosphere of the school to which they contributed. This was a feature

which I considered one of the essentials. Two others who by their long and efficient services as State Museum representatives deserve special mention are: Aretas A. Saunders, for his extensive studies of the ecology of the birds and his success as a teacher, and Robert B. Gordon, who has contributed so much to the ecological botanical studies, and who later became director when the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences assumed complete charge of the school in 1936.

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CHAPTER LI

An Herbarium From the Allegany Senecas

By William N. Fenton, Ph. D.
Bureau of American Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution

The Iroquois of central New York and southern Ontario came to know and use nearly the total flora of each of their localized habitats. These habitats varied from the coniferous margins of the St. Lawrence through beech-maple forests, elm bottoms and hemlock swamps to the pine and oak-hickory clad ridges of the Allegheny Valley. Since every culture exists over and against an environment, it is important to observe how a people pattern their relations to it, to what extent they exploit it, how its offerings affect the contents of their behavior, and how they react to new discoveries. This task has been lightened considerably already because Parker and Waugh have published studies of Iroquois agriculture and food habits, illustrating how a people readjusted a southern horticultural subsistence economy to a northerly environment. Not only was it important for the Iroquois to discover new edible fruits, but a host of plants awaited technological and medicinal experiment. Undoubtedly their Algonkian neighbors devised many uses which they borrowed, but to other plants they applied concepts already worked out for analogous southern species.

The Iroquois have been noted herbalists since Colonial times—ever since a tea brewed from hemlock needles cured Cartier's crew of scurvy.[1] The Colonists, in the absence of physicians and later through sheer inertia of habit, resorted to remedies that the Indians volunteered and later peddled at their doorsteps. European physicians and botanists coming to this country collected the flora, some-

1. Cartier mentions *onetda* derived from *onĕ'nda,* meaning Cedar or Hemlock. Parker says they employed this tea especially in winter when their diet was restricted to dried foods. Parker, A. C., "Indian Medicines and Medicine Men," p. 10. (Thirty-sixth Annual Archæological Report, Appendix to Report, Minister of Education, Toronto, 1928, pp. 9-17.)

times remarking how the Indians used it, and they established herbariums; learned bodies listened to discourses on Indian therapeutics, and thereby many Indian herbs crept into the pharmacopœia.[2] Reciprocally, the Colonists traded species purposefully introduced for their herb gardens, and undesirable barnyard weeds unwittingly brought here soon escaped to the Indian country, where new uses were devised for them.

F. W. Waugh collected Iroquois medicinal lore extensively for the National Museum of Canada between 1912 and 1918 before his death prevented publication. His field notes passed to me in 1932, through the kindness of Professor Edward Sapir and Dr. Diamond Jenness, and before going to the field I acquired some idea of the information which I might still recover from living Indians. Waugh, the naturalist, was singularly well equipped for ethnobotanical field work. His data not only testify to amazing industry, but the erudition of two of his informants appears inexhaustible. Going to the field in 1933, I found such an informant in Chauncey Johnny John, a Cayuga living among the Senecas at Cold Spring on the Allegheny River. At Tonawanda, Elijah David and Chief Barber Black, who had served Waugh in 1912, were still living. We reviewed the notes together, correcting phonetics. The ethnologist soon needed a botanist's assistance to identify the local flora if he would match the knowledge of his informants.

Method—There are methods for ethnobotanical field studies. Dr. M. R. Gilmore has outlined collecting methods in a series of papers on the Ethnobotanical Laboratory at the University of Michigan, wherein he stresses "The Importance of Ethnobotanical Investigations" and offers a series of useful "Instructions to Anthropological Field Workers."[3] Chauncey Johnny John suggested a Seneca method of dictating the formulæ and then setting out in search of the plants, but Henry Red Eye preferred stopping at each station to elaborate on the uses of a particular species which we collected for identification. Both ideas fell in nicely with Gilmore's suggestions. It seems only fair to say that collecting an adequate herbarium seems a formidable task to one lacking previous botanical training. Preserving the plants

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2. Zeisberger, Heckewelder, Kalm, Pursh, the Bartrams, and Benjamin Rush. Benjamin Rush delivered an address on Indian medicine before the American Philosophical Society, February 4, 1774. See also Heckewelder, "Indian Nations," p. 229 (Mem. Hist. Soc. Penn., XII.)

3. Gilmore, "The Ethnobotanical Laboratory at the University of Michigan." (Occasional Contributions from the Museum of Anthropology, Univ. of Mich., No. 1, Ann Arbor, 1932.)

exhausts valuable time and energy that might be spent revising notes, and one wonders whether this slow method of surely learning the plants ultimately pays dividends of more accurate ethnological information. The first season, Professor William P. Alexander, who was conveniently located near the reservation at the camp of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, kept identifications fairly abreast of my information, so we discarded the specimens. However, not having mounted a minimum of medicinal plants on herbarium sheets meant that new informants spent valuable time searching for plants previously collected. This did provide a check on other informants and they often found new items during their search, but it was quite impossible out of season to check new information by reference to the plants.

When in 1938 Dr. Robert B. Gordon, director of the Allegany School of Natural History, invited me to locate there and resume the study, facilities became available, and there were student assistants to prepare an herbarium. We went into production to furnish the Ethnobotanical Laboratory with two sets of mounted plants, photographs, and ethnological data, and we retained a third set for further study.[4] In the field, we took all plants, including those collected previously, in triplicate, and we assigned accession numbers to each species to ultimately appear on herbarium sheets and data cards. All pertinent terminology and information on uses we recorded on the spot and verified against the plants as they were pressed. In the laboratory, Dr. Gordon ascertained the species, and the onerous job of drying, poisoning and mounting devolved upon two field assistants, Ralph Lewis and Miss Rose Bleimeyer, who kept the accession list and prepared an index. Whenever possible roots were collected because Indians more often recognize herbs by the roots than by the parts which appear in the conventional herbarium. We kept our data continually liquid which enabled us to pursue queries further in the field; our chief drawback was the time involved in curing specimens. Nonetheless, we secured a basic herbarium of some 180 odd medicinal plants most commonly known and in use among the contemporary Senecas that will serve us in further field work. They represent a third of the total flora recorded for the region; two species were previously unrecorded for the locality.

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4. The Institute of Human Relations at Yale University had awarded me grants for field research in 1933 and 1934. In 1938, besides the Ethnobotanical Laboratory who agreed to purchase specimens, The St. Lawrence University and the Allegany School of Natural History, the locus of our field seminar in Ethnology, awarded us additional grants.

Plant Concepts[4a]—The characteristic Seneca attitude toward the floral world is that every plant has some purpose. Not every individual is aware of this and few individuals know upwards of two hundred plants, but they have heard the old people say, "all the species and varieties of weeds are medicine for something. The Creator has populated the earth with plants which the people shall use when need arises—" whether it be housing, technology, or curing sickness. The plants are living entities, and the herbalist regards them with veneration, remembering always that his success depends on their coöperation. They are male and female, but this classificatory principle so typical of Iroquois culture is not applied rigidly throughout the plant world. Sarsaparilla, *Aralia nudicaulis* L., called "little-stalk" is the male, whereas Spikenard, *Aralia racemosa,* L., or "giant-stalk" is female, but in general the taller plant is considered male. Thus *Prenanthes altissima* is male and *Prenanthes alba* is female of the rattlesnake weeds. Often, they link plants of analogous appearance: for example, Henry Red Eye thinks Hairy Angelica, *Angelica villosa* (Walt.) BSP., is the female of the Cicuta species, *Cicuta maculata* L., the suicide root, which grows in swampy ground. Sarah Snow applies the family concept to common ingredients of a single formula, naming Flowering Wintergreen, *Polygala paucifolia* Wild., and Whorled Milkwort, *Polygala verticillata* L., as "sisters" of Pipsissewa, *Chimaphilla umbellata* L., called "long leaves," in a cure for boils. Albert Jonas thought the plants are male and female, that they are continually reproducing as we are, and that is how they have covered the earth. Collectively, the medicines are sometimes termed "grandparents" by the people.

Native taxonomy is consistent at one point. All the medicinal plants fall into one hierarchy of form that parallels the sequential pattern for addressing spirit-forces in prayers. The criteria are relative stature and function. Proceeding from the earth upward, classification begins with grasses and herbs closest to earth, and steps upward through weeds, shrubs, and poles to the huge timbers of the standing forests. The Seneca assign plants to these classes: low grass or anything close to the earth; the weeds and stalks that die away in autumn, for instance, the various goldenrods; third, shrubs or bushes, then the growing poles, the dogwoods, for example; and, lastly, growing timber. There are, besides these, noxious weeds, such as poison ivy and nettles, and the cultivated staples: corn, beans and squashes—called

4a. For editorial reasons it has been necessary to omit the phonetic transcriptions of botanical terms in the Seneca dialect.

"the-sisters-our-life-supporters." Man approaches all of these with burnt offerings of sacred tobacco, *Nicotiana rustica* L., which is always



CULVER'S ROOT
(Veronica Virginica)

an acceptable gift to the spirit-forces. Probably few Iroquois are conscious of how closely this classification parallels their cosmological

concept of the Tree of Life that stands on the earth's center bearing aloft in its branches the sun and moon, a motif that used to be embroidered on women's skirt corners.

The Senecas know something of plant anatomy, and an elementary knowledge of the terms is indispensable to all herbalists.[5] The terms for leaf, bark, and especially root recur frequently in formulæ since they are the commonest types of ingredients. Flower or blossom, fruit (receptacle), berry and stalk (peduncle) (a term also applied to shrubs), may be designated as parts to be sought. The trunk or a limb of a certain tree may be particularized as sources of bark.

Names for species point out distinctive characters of the flower, the stem or the root, or they suggest a medicinal or economic use for the plant. Others are named for their resemblance to more familiar plants or because of analogies between their form or odor and some object already known to the culture. Still others are known as dwellers of certain habitats, or by peculiarities they are supposed to possess. Thus, Spotted Joe Pye Weed, *Eupatorium maculatum* L., is named "foam" for its flower—a term recently applied to beer, or, more commonly, "oil comes to the surface" when the root is boiled; and since the stalk of Boneset, *Eupatorium perfoliatum* L., perforates its connate leaves, the Seneca bear out the botanist when they say "it-perforates-the-leaves (humus)." Likewise, Maidenhair Fern, *Adiamtum pedatum* L., is "black-shins" because it has black stalks. The goldenrods have "gall-colored-flowers," and the doctrine of signatures operates to make them effective emetics when sufficient water is taken. The flower of Culver's Root, *Veronica virginica* (L.)R. Br., resembles the "tassel" on Maize, and Pitcher Plant, *Saracenia purpurea* L., bears the intriguing cognomen of "turtle's leggings."

Variation and Transmission of Knowledge—Informants do not always employ the same names for plants. Chauncey uses a term meaning "flat blossom (panicle)" indiscriminately for various Asters, Queen Anne's Lace, *Daucus carota* L.*, Snakeroot, *Eupatorium urticæfolium* Reich., and Yarrow, *Achillea millefolium* L.*. Two of these are introduced species and the name may be old. He claims to have forgotten some names, and again his identifications do not invariably agree from year to year. We can understand variation by considering how the Seneca value herbalism. Medical knowledge secures

5. I obtained the following terms from Sherman Red Eye and his wife Clara, my interpreter, who have only a general knowledge of plant forms. Seneca transcriptions again are omitted.

social status, yet men reluctantly admit this knowledge. Chauncey was partly annoyed that E. David recommended him as knowing all kinds of medicines, and Henry Red Eye twitted me that Chauncey was teaching me to be a witch. Because medical knowledge embraces magic and witchcraft, the physician occupies a dubious status in which he can play two rôles, either healer or sorcerer. Therefore, transmission of knowledge is confined to family lines. A relative may indicate a plant as good medicine without telling its name. He is apt to cling to his knowledge until death approaches, releasing it reluctantly because knowledge once sold is no longer effective. Yet knowledge lives within families where both men and women are herbalists, and they emphasize neither line of descent in teaching their children. Both parents may teach a generation of siblings, but an adopted grandchild may acquire erudition that skips a generation since he is living home when the grandparent is ready to impart his wisdom.

The Snows learned from both parents; Howard Jimmerson from his old grandmother. Chauncey said:

> I am an old man. My father told me, and I tell my son's son what the plants are good for. (He also has a book in which he writes them down.) But I charge other Indians, and especially white people.

This helps explain why botanical knowledge is uncodified and how plant names and medicinal usage can differ between families living in the same local group, to say nothing of group differences existing between localities. The ethnologist is left hoping that his revealed information constitutes a fair sample of what is generally known.

Collecting Practices—It seems wise for space considerations to pass over problem areas of symptomatology, disease concepts, and diagnosis, reserving them for treatment elsewhere, and discuss here general practices associated with collecting herbs. The prophet, Handsome Lake, said that if one takes a plant without telling it how it shall be used, and whom it is to cure, it will not be effective. Nor may one ask the sick for remuneration, but it rests with the sick to give what they will. Emma Turkey visits the sick administering medicines *gratis,* accepting money or goods (cloth paid as annuities) when offered,[6] but Sarah Snow's father said, "there is little use in going out and digging roots under the snow for nothing." He always charged, and so does his daughter.

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6. Information collected by Marjorie Lismer.

After visiting the sick and diagnosing the sickness, the physician goes out in the early hours before noon collecting the plants. Chauncey always has a particular disease in mind when he seeks a plant, and Cornplanter cites the belief against storing up medicines for future use. When need arises he seeks each plant individually, and he travels miles until he finds it, passing over medicines of no momentary use to him. Medicines belong to the Nation so one may go anywhere collecting them.

Ecology—Herbalists—"they who are concerned with plants," a term the Seneca apply to botanists—know that medicines grow in specific localities and habitats; they know plant stations and their ecology. Because they are continually observing the locus, variety, and abundance of flora when berrying at home or traveling abroad, their search is not entirely aimless. Tobacco grows "in the garden," plantain within the village, Willow Herb "on the fields"; ferns inhabit the hill "in the forest"; others are known to live "at the edge of clearings," "in the swamp," "along the flats," or "on the creek bank," and a few live "under water." This wisdom even permeates ritual where the first period of the epic poem which the Medicine Company sings to renew the strength of the sacred Little Water Medicine alludes to places visited by a solitary medicine seeker who sings in the first person, "Here I go (to a certain place); I have arrived back from a trip to (that place)." He visits a village, searches fields, even to their limits at the wood's edge. Through the woods he reaches a swamp where saxifrage grows, *Saxifraga pennsylvanica* L., the only herb specifically mentioned in the text. He crosses a stream where little animals go to drink, passes a windfall, stops to gather splinters from a lightning shriven tree, and ultimately returns whence he started.

Invocation—Generally before going afield, the collector makes a tobacco offering to the plants that he seeks, to prepare the plant world for his coming. He remembers to thank each species by always leaving tobacco at the first plant he discovers and then passes on to others, leaving the first to propagate the species. Practitioners, however, frequently disregard this native conservation theory.

Collecting is best done in the fall when the strength has returned to the roots, which may then be stored against winter sickness. Medicines should not be taken after the lightning bugs appear, because predatory insects eat away the strength of the plant, but it is all right

to collect again when they depart, because in the fall the strength returns to the root. For digging herbs modern collectors carry a small grub hoe and a sack because now they gather quantities of such roots as Gold Thread, *Coptis trifolia* (L.) Salisb., and Stoneroot, *Collinsonia canadensis* L., which they may not use themselves but sell to patent drug companies. Nevertheless, Chauncey frequently resorts to the old method of sharpening one end of a cut stave to an edge for spading out roots, or he pulls up whole clumps of Boneset and carries them home to dry for winter pneumonia medicine. I observed two women gather every available Pipsissewa plant from a station, and at another site where *Ipomæa* grows the ground is pitted where Senecas have come to excavate the roots. Jonas Snow learned from his father to gather up his herbs every fall and bundle them for storage, and Chauncey puts his in separate sacks and tin boxes to insure their separateness.

Some herbs are specifics and have definite known properties, such as the astringent power of Blackberry root, *Rubus allegheniensis* Porter, and the cathartic power of Virginia winterberry, *Ilex verticillata* L., but they are generally used in combination with others believed to possess sympathetic magical properties. In taking barks they are invariably scraped upward for use as emetics, downward for physics. The form and color of other plants suggests their uses: the red juice of blood root, the hollow dry stalk and crimson flower of Fireweed (Willow Herb), *Epilobium angustifolium* L., associated with consumption, and the bifed taproots of Manroot, *Ipomæa pandurata* Meyer, and Ginseng if found growing erect, assist the living, but if discovered growing horizontally make deadly poisons. The collector must consider these principles in assembling his drugs.

Trade—There are some plants that herbalists know do not grow at Allegany and they secure them by trade with other herbalists at Tonawanda, Cattaraugus and Grand River, Ontario. Chauncey was able to give me a list of plants he secures from trading partners in other localities and the plants which they want from Allegany. He was even able to tell me stations where they could be found at a distance of several hundred miles.

Residual Gardens—Although old Iroquois sites reveal characteristic floral changes due to human habitation, which the ecologists term residual gardens, on the supposition that many plants were brought there from afield, my inquiries reveal that herbal gardens were hardly

developed. Except for tobacco and a few introduced herbs, herbalists prefer the harder work of collecting fresh medicines to cultivating them at home.

Conclusions—Ethnobotanical studies are a measure of the interaction of culture and environment. The application of Gilmore's method to the problem reveals that in one season a Seneca informant was able to indicate specific medicinal uses for at least a third of the total flora of his locality; future research will uncover more slowly uses for other plants. Plant knowledge is uncodified, but the Senecas view plants as spirit-forces, integrating them with their hierarchial conception of the universe. Male and female classificatory principles originating in the kinship configuration of society extend to the plant world and the study of plant concepts will reveal symbolisms involved in personal names derived from plants, and political statuses that are phrased in terms of plant analogies. Individual variations in plant and medicinal knowledge are due to the method of transmitting knowledge within family lines. Ecological wisdom derived from collecting pervades even ritual poetry, and its study will cast light on folk-lore and mythology. Domestication and storage is only weakly developed, but the problem of residual gardens should be more thoroughly considered by archæologists. Lastly, this study is only a springboard for an understanding of Iroquois disease concepts, diagnosis, and therapy, as aspects of the total Iroquois culture pattern.

CHAPTER LII

History of Social Welfare in Cattaraugus County

By Dorothy V. Weston

The earliest recorded social welfare enterprise in Cattaraugus County was undertaken by a group of Philadelphia Quakers who settled on the Seneca Indian Reservation in 1798 with the purpose of persuading the Indians to become farmers instead of hunters. Their educational efforts resulted much later in the establishment of the "Thomas Indian School," named for Philip E. Thomas, first president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The school was supported by State and private contributions until 1875, when the State assumed the entire responsibility.

In just about a century a long road has been traveled from the establishment of the first county poor house at Machias in 1835 to the complex organization of welfare activities in our day. Previous to the State Act of 1824, which charged all counties with the support of dependents within their borders, several systems were in practice throughout the State, including Almshouse Relief, Home Relief, the Contract System whereby the poor of a locality were put under the care of one or more persons at a fixed charge, and the Auction System whereby they were auctioned off to the person offering to maintain them at the least charge to the community. When the new county poor house was opened thirty-three paupers were installed, including children, insane and idiots, as was the custom in those days. A reference in an early report to two children who were "bound out" shows that the indenture system was then in force. As there was no supervision of these children it was inevitable that there were grave cases of abuse. It is interesting to note that children were still being bound out in Cattaraugus County in 1921, the form of indenture providing only for board and clothes until the child became of age.

After a fire the county poor house was rebuilt in 1846 and the report of a committee appointed ten years later by the Senate to visit charitable institutions gives a dreary picture of paupers, children, insane and feeble-minded still confined together in impossible surroundings, although by this time the State had provided some institutions for the care of the insane. During this period a State law had been passed allowing county supervisors to restore the system of town relief if they wished; but the poor house still remained the center of the whole relief system.



CHILDREN'S HOME, RANDOLPH, 1893

A later report by State officials in 1869 announced that a new and larger building was about to be constructed for the county poor at a cost of approximately $20,000. During that year 255 persons were cared for in the poor house at a cost of $5,169 and $4,993 was spent on outdoor relief. Of those in the institution at the time of the report, twenty-three were insane, one idiotic, one blind, one mute and six were children. By 1878 the number of insane had risen to forty-five and a new separate building was constructed for their care. In 1890 a State law was finally passed ordering the removal of the insane from poor houses to State asylums and a history published in 1892

mentions that thirty-nine inmates had been removed to the Buffalo Asylum, leaving about ninety in the local institution.

The removal from poor houses of dependent children under sixteen years of age was ordered by law in 1875. For some years public opinion had been forming against the association of children with all types of undesirable adults in public institutions, and a number of orphan asylums had been constructed throughout the State for their care. The increase in the number of orphans caused by the Civil War gave great impetus to this movement. In response to the need of dependent children in Cattaraugus County the Randolph Children's Home was founded and incorporated in 1878 by public-spirited citizens. In 1876 the Rev. Charles Strong, a retired chaplain of Sing Sing Prison, returned to his home in Randolph and undertook to carry out a long cherished plan. From his prison experience he was convinced that adult criminals were a product of neglected childhood and wished to found a home for children far away from the evils usually associated with city life. He donated his home for the purpose and from this modest beginning, with the help of private citizens of Cattaraugus and nearby counties, has developed the "Western New York Society for the Protection of Homeless and Dependent Children." About five thousand boys and girls have been cared for since the founding of the home, which is now under the able direction of Harry Colwell.

Gradually a trend had been developing away from the housing together of all kinds of cases towards specialized institutional care. Separate institutions for the feeble-minded, delinquents, epileptics, etc., had been constructed by the State during the latter part of the nineteenth century, to which the county sent its needy cases. At this time the indigent were cared for by a county superintendent of the poor, an overseer of the poor in each town and commissioners of charities in the two cities, Olean and Salamanca. Relief at home was very seldom granted, institutional care being the accepted way of dealing with needy cases.

Voluntary relief agencies were being formed during the latter part of the nineteenth century in the cities of Olean and Salamanca. It is impossible in this brief space to mention them all. The Salvation Army began its work in Olean in 1893. The City Relief Society was formed in Olean about 1890 by Mrs. J. R. Jewell. Mrs. Edna Hewitt was the first paid worker of this organization which now confines its work to aiding those cases that do not fit into the regular relief cate-

gories. A county public nursing service was organized by Miss Evelyn Moore and Miss Martha Bullis, which remained active until the World War. A branch of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children was formed and still maintains an agent who also acts as school truant officer. In both Olean and Salamanca the King's Daughters began their valuable work. The efforts of St. Margaret's Chapter of St. Stephen's Church resulted in the establishment of the Olean General Hospital.

During the early years of the twentieth century private philanthropic enterprises continued to develop. A county tuberculosis association was organized in 1910 in which Miss Lilla C. Wheeler was one of the most active members. Interested citizens started a camp for the children of tuberculous families in 1912. Service clubs organized later in the two cities included the Kiwanis and the Rotary Club. The Zonta and Exchange clubs of Olean are both active in work for needy children. The Olean American Legion Auxiliary was started in 1922 through the efforts of Mrs. N. V. V. Franchot.

Prior to 1915 forms of public relief were still confined almost entirely to the poor house and home relief. In 1915 boards of child welfare were set up in all up-State counties to administer allowances to widows with children in order that the children might be cared for at home by their mothers. The Cattaraugus County board had no trained worker to advise with it and was not provided with adequate funds, two factors which hampered its work. Many of the mothers continued to work, thus further defeating the purpose of the law.

In 1921 a report by an experienced public welfare agency comments on the fact that in the county preventive family relief was given no consideration by poor law officials and that treatment of children's cases was most inadequate. In 1922 a State-wide system of children's courts was established, vested with sweeping powers in dealing with dependent and neglected children. Judge Orla E. Black was appointed judge of the Cattaraugus County Children's Court, a position which he still holds. One of the county welfare workers acts voluntarily as probation officer.

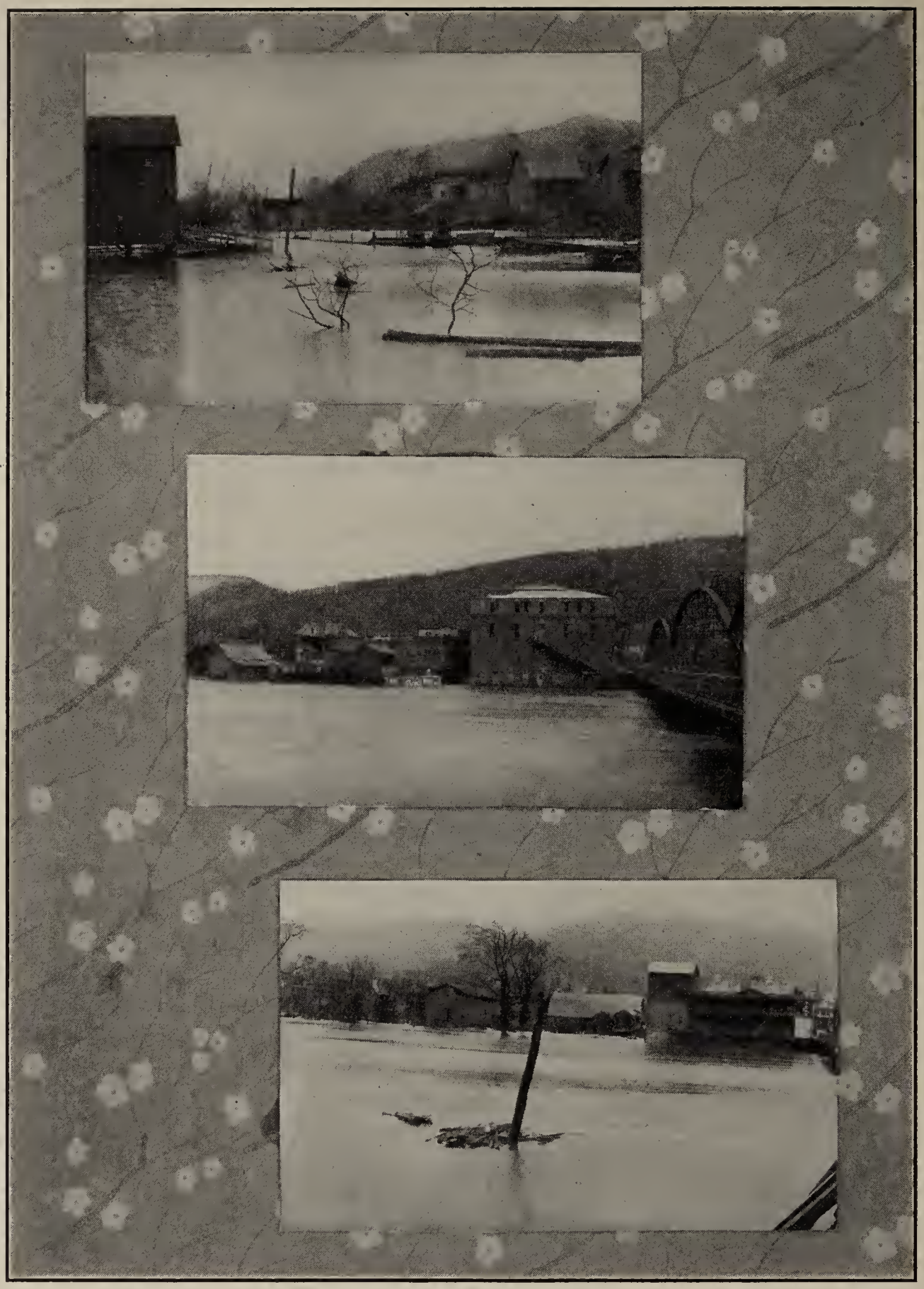
In 1923 the Milbank Memorial Fund initiated its demonstration in public health in Cattaraugus County and no sooner had an adequate staff of public health nurses begun their visits than a large number of cases of human misery began to be discovered with which a health program alone could not deal. The visitor driving along the main roads of the county saw for the most part fairly prosperous farming

communities. However, in the hills and valleys off the main roads, the picture was very different. Cattaraugus differed from no other similar county in this respect, but only to the initiated was known the appalling extent of social problems which present themselves in rural areas. In order to meet the situation the Milbank Fund employed the first trained social worker in Cattaraugus County in 1924 and in her first week of work twenty-seven new cases were referred to her involving dependency, inadequate relief, desertion, delinquency, mental defect, improper guardianship, rape, and venereal disease. At this time there was no supervision of adopted children, mental deficiency was hardly recognized, home relief was seldom given, the whole amount spent for that purpose during 1923 being $11,665.71.

In this year a program to discover and help cripples was undertaken by the Cattaraugus County Tuberculosis and Public Health Association. A local committee was organized to raise funds which are now appropriated by the board of supervisors and administrated by Judge Orla E. Black. Local workers coöperate with State orthopedic clinics in caring for these cases.

The Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Buffalo organized an office in Olean in 1926 which has been maintained ever since and now employs two trained social workers. According to agreement all cases involving Catholic children are turned over to them.

In 1927 the Milbank Fund employed Miss Susan Boyd as the first social service director in the county and provided her with one assistant. Two more assistants were employed later. These workers had definite status as assistants to the county superintendent of the poor and coöperated closely with the two city commissioners of charities and the town overseers of the poor. The workers drew upon the resources of all the available private welfare funds. A community chest had been organized in Olean and by 1929 was contributing to the City Relief Society, Salvation Army, Anti-Tuberculosis Society, School Nutritional Fund, Olean General Hospital, Red Cross, Boy and Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls, and Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. In this year county funds for relief outside institutions or home relief had risen to $40,320. However, the staff of social workers was still too small to accomplish more than amelioration of the most serious cases of social maladjustment. Their time was so taken by problems requiring emergency action that there was little or no time left for the more arduous and important tasks of prevention and rehabilitation.



(Photo Courtesy of John C. Krieger Collection)

ALLEGHENY RIVER FLOOD, SALAMANCA, MAY 1, 1909

Meanwhile New York State enacted another most important piece of social legislation. The "Public Welfare Law" took the place of the antiquated "Poor Law" which regarded the almshouse as the center of relief. In the future emphasis was to be placed upon prevention and institutional care was to be regarded as the last resort. Overseers of the poor became public welfare officials and poor houses became county homes.

In 1930 Miss Susan Boyd left the county and Victor R. Lynde became the first commissioner of welfare under the new law. The welfare department assumed control of all dependent children cared for outside of their homes, of feeble-minded and physically handicapped children. The county supervisors made an appropriation for the salaries of two assistants to the commissioner of public welfare. Various improvements were undertaken at the county home and two offices were opened in Olean and Salamanca to administer welfare activities. Mr. Lynde continued in office until January 1, 1939, when he was replaced by H. E. Robinson.

The last important piece of social legislation to be enacted in New York State, before welfare systems throughout the Nation were shaken to their foundations by the great depression, was the Old Age Security Act of 1930. This law provided relief at home for the needy aged seventy years and over. In 1936 the minimum age was reduced to sixty-five years to meet increasing needs.

As the depression developed, all private relief organizations and the public welfare department were taxed to the limit. In 1931 a trained worker was provided by the State under the Temporary Emergency Relief Act, which marked the beginning of State financial aid to local welfare agencies. When it became apparent that the depression was not of a temporary nature the Temporary Emergency Relief Act was abolished and the workers joined the staff of the county welfare department.

When the Social Security Act of 1936 was passed Federal Aid began for programs of old age assistance, aid to dependent children and aid to the blind. Other forms of relief made available to the county by the Federal government included the Works Progress Administration, the National Youth Administration and the Civilian Conservation Corps. The county, towns and cities certified to eligibility of individuals for these forms of relief.

In 1937 the State's Public Welfare administrative system was reorganized to meet the changes in the relationship of the State to local welfare activities. Changes especially important to Cattaraugus

County were the assumption of responsibility by the State for all Indians and unsettled persons and reimbursement of forty per cent. of salaries of local welfare personnel.

The county now carries on the following forms of welfare work:

1. *Aid to the Blind*—This work is carried on by the "Southwestern Tier Association for the Blind," comprising three southwestern counties of the State. Funds are appropriated by the county supervisors and seventy-five per cent. is refunded by the State and Federal governments. Various private organizations also contribute to the work, providing money for operations, glasses, etc.

2. *Old Age Assistance*—This type of relief represents the heaviest expenditure in the whole welfare program. The county is reimbursed seventy-five per cent. of its expenditures for the needy aged of sixty-five or over. There were about nine hundred cases being cared for in this way at the end of 1938.

3. *Aid to Dependent Children*—Mother's allowances have been administered by the welfare department since 1937. The county is reimbursed by the State to the extent of approximately fifty per cent. of such expenditures.

4. *Child Welfare*—Under this department comes the supervision of cases referred by children's court, investigation and supervision of boarding houses, investigation and supervision of children in their own homes who need special care, and coöperation with the State Charities Aid Association in placing children for adoption. Neither State nor Federal financial aid is received for these cases and the costs are charged back to the towns and cities of settlement. When medical or educational aid is given to physically handicapped children under twenty-one years of age the county is reimbursed by the State for fifty per cent. of the cost.

5. *Home Relief*—The only eligibility requirement for home relief is need. Those having residence in towns or cities receive aid from these governmental units and the commissioner of welfare is responsible for administering relief to those not settled in town or city. The State reimburses the towns and cities for forty per cent. of such expenditures. Whenever it is possible to establish residence the expenditures are charged back by the county welfare department to the place of residence.

6. *Hospitalization*—The county welfare commissioner is charged by law with responsibility for providing hospital care for the needy. Such care, when not provided under old age assistance or aid to the blind, is charged back to the place of settlement of the patient.

7. *County Home and Farm*—The average number of inmates in the home during 1938 was 124 persons. The commissioner of wel-

fare charges back the cost of board and care of inmates to their place of residence.

In 1938 relief expenditures in the county were as follows: County, $566,000; cities, $115,916; towns, $97,747; total, $779,663.

Relief now accounts for thirty-five and seven tenths per cent. of the county expenditures. Available data indicate that county relief expenditures were approximately $80,000 in 1928, so the present figure means an increase of about seven times in ten years. Town expenditures increased in the same period from about $20,000 to $98,000. The expenses and compensation of town public welfare officials appear to vary widely from town to town.

New York State is now divided into districts for the administration of welfare activities and Cattaraugus County is included in the district having headquarters at Buffalo. With the advice of the director of the State Divisional Welfare Department at Buffalo, the county welfare commissioner is now reorganizing the welfare department. In the future, instead of having separate investigators for each type of relief, the same worker will investigate cases requiring Home Relief, Old Age Assistance, Aid to the Blind, and Aid to Dependent Children. It is hoped by this plan to avoid duplication of effort when one family is eligible for different types of relief. Plans for reorganization have not been completed, but the county has been divided into ten districts for the administration of welfare activities and workers are being assigned to offices in appropriate locations.

All veterans' cases are referred to a welfare worker who is also in charge of one of the ten districts in the county. The cities of Olean and Salamanca each have a worker paid by local taxation who attends to needy veterans within the city limits. Each of the posts of the American Legion in the county also has a member who deals with veterans' problems in his district.

Profound changes in attitude as well as methods have occurred. The great depression of the past ten years has done much to abolish the old attitude that indigence was largely a matter of personal fault. Social security is becoming accepted as an integral part of any stable democratic system. The realization that the needy must be helped and not further degraded has established the welfare worker upon a professional basis and future legislation will doubtless tend more and more to remove welfare administration from political influence.

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CHAPTER LIII

Industrial Cattaraugus

If one were to limit the meaning of the term "industrial" to the products or the processes of manufacturing by machinery, then the story of the industries of Cattaraugus County has already been told in the separate histories of the cities and larger villages. To name the three largest, they are Olean, oil and factory center; Salamanca, made by the railroads and fine transportation facilities; and Gowanda, where great tannery and glue plants formed the original basis of prosperity. If we broaden the word industry to include agriculture, the forest productions, animal industry, "neighborhood industries," and reduce the word manufacturing to its literal meaning—making things by hand—Cattaraugus has a varied and interesting industrial story that can be outlined. Related in general terms it not only contains a record of the development of the county as a unit, but illustrates certain features of the development of western New York State.

Basic Factors—The quantities and varieties of raw material derived from the farms, forests and petroleum are the bases of the industries of this section of southwestern New York. These were evolved normally and simply, being inextricably intertwined with the progress of the people who in the first instance came here to cut timber, farm, or speculate. For the most part the pioneers were land hungry and had listened to the siren cry of companies that had purchased enormous acreages during the closing years of the eighteenth century when the State of New York found itself possessed of a domain of eight million acres, 75 per cent. of which were literally tossed into the laps of large speculators. Massachusetts alone sold to Phelps and Gorham, six million acres in western New York for about seventeen cents per acre, and this at a time when thousands of individuals were seeking farms to own and cultivate, eager to build homes and hamlets, roads and mills. At what high costs this land

got into the hands of the pioneers is not pertinent to this chapter, except that the prices they paid greatly retarded the permanent settlement of the region.

The development of Cattaraugus County is like its topography, hills and valleys, winding roads and changing points of vantage and outlook. As late as 1810 there were only 458 people in the whole county, according to Everts' "History" (1879). The largest group of these folk was in the southeastern corner in the Olean section, where lumbering was the main enterprise. Elsewhere, especially around Gowanda, there were farmers attracted by the lure of quick profits in wheat. The slogan of the land companies was, in brief: "Cut the trees and make homes and potash; plant grain and, after the first crop, your land will have paid for itself and continue to increase in value." The scheme proved a mirage for a variety of reasons. Most of the land was not particularly suited to wheat, and when the Middle West, during the first quarter of the century proved its adaptability to this crop, there was a great trek from the East. The rivers of the county running north and south were more useful to migrants leaving Cattaraugus than in aiding others to come in. The terrain about Olean and Wellsville, however rich in trees, was thoroughly discouraging to the would-be farmer. It lacked the good soil of the glacially affected more northern parts of the county. The Erie Canal, hailed as the "savior" of this region, proved actually harmful, and the Genesee Valley Canal, extended to Olean in 1856, was abandoned after two decades. Even the railroads—the first of them all the Atlantic and Great Western of 1851 which became the Erie, while it, with others of later building, made Salamanca, benefited other districts more than Cattaraugus County. It is true that they brought it closer to eastern and western markets, but there were still too many acres closer to the larger cities than Cattaraugus and always a surge towards the West.

Pioneer Activities—All this presents a dismal picture, but it is one necessary to paint if for no other reason than that it gives the background of county settlement and industries, and indicates one reason why its present single largest business was evolved—the dairying industry—and why eventually the so-called "neighborhood" industries became important.

Passing over for a time the exceptionally valuable lumber resources in the south, let us turn our attention to the pioneer farmers in what some have called the "dark age" in New York agriculture prior to 1825. These pioneers brought with them few aids to the cultiva-



(Courtesy of Olean Chamber of Commerce)

OLEAN FLOOD PICTURES, 1916

Center photo, by S. B. Nodler, shows dyke at left. The approximate cost of dyking was $300,000, divided equally between New York State and Olean.

tion of the soil, because these had yet to be invented or widely distributed. The plow was still in the wooden stage with a wrought-iron point. There was still the wooden pitchfork and only the cradle had been added to the scythe. The main tool was the "man-killer," a heavy hoe. With these three instruments men were supposed to grow the necessities of life and a surplus of wheat for the market. Wrote an early settler of Cattaraugus County, in 1823: "A good man might scratch several acres a day with his crude plow, dodging the stumps he must leave to rot, hitched with his wife or son, when he lacked an ox, or when the ox was busy at something else. Then drag a small tree over the roughened land as a harrow. The seed was sown by hand, and when ripe a man could reap and cradle about four acres a day. By hand flailing or by the old Biblical method of treading it out with oxen, the grain could be threshed. On a windy day he gathered up and winnowed the seed as it was poured into hand-made baskets, just as in the days of Ruth."

Neighborhood Industries—To the imagination may be left the picture of the pioneer's life of slightly more than a hundred years ago —how he built his home of logs, or bark, or of hand-split shingles and clapboards; how he cleared the land, and sometimes grew flax, or wool, and spun the materials into clothing. How he managed to face life without stores, doctors, even neighbors, without a thousand things which are now common necessities. From these conditions grew three or four local industries. Black salts was often the first and only money production. An acre of hardwood trees, when burned might leave ashes from which four hundred pounds of black salts could be produced by leaching and evaporating. For these he could get from two and a half to three cents a pound in *cash,* often the only real money the farmer ever secured; butter brought only twelve to fourteen cents a pound, in *trade.* Another industry over quite a period was the making of whiskey. Almost any farmer could purchase or devise a ten-gallon still, and whiskey, whether of grain or potatoes, was easily portable although not so potable, and therefore sold readily. Some pioneers made charcoal, light although bulky, that in good times sold for fifteen cents a bushel. There were numerous fine stands of timber whose bark could be used for tanning, but strange as it may seem now, there were few cattle or cows brought to Cattaraugus County during the first third of its history, possibly because there was a limited demand for salted meat, and a cow running around on unfenced wild grass openings in the forest, subject to loss from wolves, Indians or simply getting lost, was not worth the

bother entailed in the getting very little milk. At any rate beef and hides were not plentiful.

The gristmill and the sawmill accompanied most settlements, and there were many small and large streams in the county to provide readily available water power. It seems certain that these waterways had a heavier and more reliable flow then than now. Both grist and sawmills were indispensable in the economy of the olden days, if for no other reason than that they relieved the pioneer from the back-breaking and wasteful occupation of stamping out hominy or meal in a hollowed-out stump; the hand-splitting of shingles and clapboards and the hewing of timbers. The manufacture of woolen cloth had some early importance. Sheep were often brought along by new settlers, and flax was an early crop. As a rule the wool was carded in small mills, usually an adjunct of a saw or gristmill, and the spinning and weaving was done by the farmer's wife. The cloth was dyed and finished by the mill. Incidental, but important, were the minor manufacturers—the fellow who made shoes, clothes, stoves, furniture, kitchen utensils and the like in his own little shop or in the customer's home. It is rather surprising how many of these industries have been continued to the present, although in improved forms.

Lumbering—In point of time the forests provided the first big money to the people of the county. Black salts, or potash have been mentioned. Later "asheries," locally financed and operated, were started to carry on the better reduction of the valuable salts in wood ashes. More important was logging, with Olean in the lead. Miss Brooks has written in this volume on the history of this principal city, but it will do no harm to recall that here began the annals of the county. As is well known, when Cattaraugus was established, Olean was the sole town in the county. The Allegheny River was then (1807) the only public thoroughfare. There were splendid stands of white pine and hemlock in the area. Logs were rafted down the stream on a large scale. It was simple to float timber down to Warren or Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. As a rule small rafts were taken down as far as Warren and then thirty or more of them were combined into an "Allegheny fleet," and completed their journey to a sawmill. As early as 1836 this lumber business had about reached a maximum, and according to Recknagel (1923) "the last raft went down the Allegheny River in 1890." In these early years Guy C. Ervine was the "Napoleon of the lumber business," whose name was known in every town from Olean to New Orleans. "Frequently he

sent to market twenty million feet of lumber in a single season. Both shores of the Allegheny for a mile above Pittsburgh were sometimes lined with his rafts, waiting a raise of water. He owned several large mills, one at the mouth of Bucktooth Run, just below the present site of Salamanca, and another on the Allegheny in the county close to the Pennsylvania line, as well as others near Olean. The village of Corydon owed its early flourishing condition to his enterprises."

By-Product Enterprises—Two by-products of lumbering came to the fore during this period and shortly after—tanneries and the "chemical" industries. Both were related to the stripping of the best forest lands. When the pines began to be exhausted, then hemlock was cut on a large scale. Its bark was productive of tannic acid in a diluted form and therefore useful for tanning leather. Little capital was needed to start a tannery. Plenty of bark was at hand. But a plentiful supply of hides was lacking, a condition that eventually wrecked this business. Cheaper sources of tannic acid also contributed to this downfall. It probably is possible to find today rotting piles of hemlock bark collected before tanning left for other parts of the country, due to the modernizing of methods and material. When tanning was reasonably profitable, nearly every large hamlet in Cattaraugus County had one or several plants. Leather was then in great demand locally, not much of it being shipped, though transportation facilities had been improved. The easier it became to get cattle into market the fewer hides were left.

Not long before the turn of the century and for some years thereafter, there was an increase in the chemical industries, which converted wood into crude acetic acid, wood alcohol and other materials derived from the destructive distillation of wood. There are still a few such plants remaining in the county, but for the most part they have been abandoned. The saw and the planing mill is still with us, seldom large and usually serving local needs. Of the many concerns once making wooden furniture, but few remain. Local hardwoods have been too greatly reduced and certain places like Grand Rapids find it less expensive to import raw materials from all over the world. The concentration of the furniture industry in a few large centers has made it difficult for small communities to compete. In recent years metal, simulating wood, has become popular in the furniture trade.

Dairy Industries—The Civil War caused numerous industrial changes in Cattaraugus County. It stimulated factory production, and gave an impetus to dairying in Cattaraugus, not at first realized.

The panic of 1873 was disastrous and there was another within a few years, both of which affected all of the country. The growth in population in this part of New York slowed down and there was a taking of inventories to find out just where things stood and what was to be the future. Probably the most significant industrial feature of the immediate post-Civil War in Cattaraugus was the marked increase in the making of cheese—later came the milk condenseries. Butter had



(Photo Courtesy of John C. Krieger Collection)

"THE WINDSPLITTER," THE OLD ERIE RAILROAD STATION AT SALAMANCA, DISCONTINUED JANUARY 1, 1904, AND TORN DOWN SOON THEREAFTER

hitherto been the main product manufactured from milk, for practically no equipment or storage were required for this. The manufacture of cheese, especially of fairly even quality, called for more equipment and a certain amount of local coöperation. Small compact neighborhood groups could provide both capital and labor.

The condenseries were more expensive, but at first were local in character. The making of butter, cheese and condensed milk thrived

at a time when the distance from large markets, in point of the time element, made the shipment of raw milk unattractive. Cattaraugus still remains a part of the cheese producing district of New York State, but its own production has largely fallen off, and few new plants are being built. The fact that New York State laws forbid the making of cheese in the same building where fresh milk is handled is a retarding factor. Nor are condenseries increasing. The present trend is toward shipping larger quantities of fresh milk to centers of large population and away from making products from it in local plants, or in feeding it to animals. This probably will be the outstanding phase of dairying, for Cattaraugus is a good section for the cow. Heavy milk breeds are increasingly popular, and roads within and without the section are highly improved. The census of 1930 (April 1) listed Cattaraugus with 3,999 farms. At about that time Catherwood (1931) estimated that more than 2,000 farms sent milk to New York City daily. Several years later (1935?) Dr. Mason repeated this statement and wrote further: "The average quantities of all grades of milk sent there, places the county in the upper third of those sending milk to the city (New York)." He made no estimates of the fresh milk shipped or utilized elsewhere.

Into agriculture as an industry we need not go. What Dr. Paul D. Orvis has written in his chapter on "Agriculture" in the first volume of these "Annals" covers the subject adequately. All that might be more fully emphasized is that Cattaraugus County has many relatively high sections where climate, especially in its effect upon the shortness of the growing season, points the way to a further expansion of dairying and the improvement of pasture and hay lands rather than increasing efforts to raise larger crops of such grains as require length of time and much dry heat at the time of maturing. A good word might be said for the maple sugar and syrup industry. It also seems to be about time for a revival of planting apple orchards because the over-production of apples in New York and most States, is on the wane. There are many parts of Cattaraugus where the pome fruits thrive, and a decade from now apples may again be in profitable demand.

The Oil Industry—The petroleum and natural gas industry in Cattaraugus County deserves a chapter all of its own, and shares one in this volume with a neighboring county. Cattaraugus and Allegany historians claim for their county the first well drilled in New York State. Without trying to settle an old controversy, we quote Dr.

A. K. Lobeck (1927), a statement repeated by Dr. C. Y. Mason, both New York geologists of note: "In 1864, New York's first oil well was drilled at Limestone, Cattaraugus County." Lewis H. Thornton, identified with the New York petroleum industry over an exceptionally long period says: "Statements have been made, which are doubtless reliable, but remain unverified by the writer, that a test well for oil was drilled near Limestone, Cattaraugus County, in 1865 or 1866." Since the famous Seneca Indian Oil Spring, long known to white men, is located near the outlet of Cuba Lake, a few stone throws in Allegany County from the Cattaraugus line, we may well award to the latter section priority in drilling.

None of the first wells went deep enough to tap the best sands. The owner of the Limestone well did go farther down with a second drilling in 1871, but there were only two productive wells in this area by 1876. In that National Centennial year, Pennsylvania oil men began to explore the northern end of what is known as the Bradford Pool, and soon there were some 225 producing wells, and, according to Everts' "History" (1879), there was a small refinery built at Limestone in 1878. The most of this pool (once known as the State Line pool), underlies what is now the Allegany State Park, except for a part extending east-south of Olean, and a few small separate pools such as the Olean, above and west of the city, and the Humphrey pool to the north of the park.

The oil boom lasted less than two decades, reaching its height before the turn of the century. Natural gas in quantity was an accompanying feature of some petroleum wells, as for example around Red House (1891), and this was in some cases piped into lines reaching to Buffalo. The oil sands underneath the New York area seem to be either exceptionally slow in giving up their supply of petroleum, or changing methods of forcing production such as by flooding of differing types, have extended the length of productivity. Certainly the oil wells of the area have had an extended history and hundreds of old and small wells are being pumped today. Industrially, petroleum now benefits mainly Olean, although this city is only on the edge of the real oil country. Once it was the home of many oil men and financiers. In 1872 its storage of petroleum was the largest in the world, and the first commercial pipe line was laid from Olean to Saddle Rock River, New Jersey. Today one of its outstanding industries is the storage and refining and shipping of petroleum products. Several plants employ directly about five hundred people, and contribute to the incomes of many more.

Industrial Centers—It is not difficult to understand why Olean became an oil center, or how Salamanca started as a railroad city, or the reason for a number of places becoming cheese-making centers, and why the town of Allegany long ago became outstanding for the packing of vegetables, and Ashford for dried apples,—all grew out of the use of local resources. It is less easy to understand why Gowanda is the site of the largest American glue factory of its type, or explain why Franklinville and Little Valley should specialize in cutlery. In the changing economic system of our country, small parts are becoming absorbed into the whole. The immense improvement of transportation also enters the picture, if it does not dominate it. Individual areas depend less on natural resources and more on suitability for the production of any single type of goods. At the present stage it appears that Cattaraugus County is better fitted, as a whole, despite a few exceptions where railroads and highways cross, for the larger development of so-called rural industries, combined with essential neighborhood manufacturing.

Turning from the general to the particular, we quote some statistics. These are of 1937, except where otherwise indicated, the year 1937 being taken because it is the latest year of which authoritative figures are available. Many industrialists, and the State authorities, are evidently waiting for 1940 census and other figures. Individual business men are not inclined to furnish information, because economic, and especially industrial conditions are still in a state of flux growing out of a prolonged financial depression and shifts in industrial activities.

Statistical Comparisons—In 1937 there were reported 183 manufacturing plants in Cattaraugus County employing a total of 4,932 persons. In 1935 the State authorities estimated there were 4,760 farms in the county, and a total county population of 72,398. Of the 183 establishments, there were 125 factories which employed less than ten people each. These included most of the neighborhood industries—those which supply local necessities and to a certain extent utilize local resources or products. About twenty plants employed from ten to ninety-nine individuals. There were twelve using from 100 to 199, and four using more than 200, including one, the largest, then having 571 employees. For a comparison one may refer to figures of 1913, when there were 224 "factories" in the county, employing just under seven thousand people. Olean alone, in that year, had more than ninety manufacturing plants employing 3,578; and Salamanca and East Salamanca used 1,327 persons, or a combined total

of 4,689 in just two cities. Gowanda, Franklinville and Randolph then employed well over a thousand people in their industrial companies. These figures increased until the middle 1920s, with various shifts during the World War period.

How are the present industries divided in Cattaraugus County? As regards number of establishments, those connected with food and kindred products add up to seventy-seven, the larger proportion being associated with dairy products. There were twenty-eight wood-working plants, making a total of 105 concerns out of the whole number 183. The number employed in these two industries, however, were few more than one thousand. Olean industries employed more than twice this number. Tabulating certain statistics from the "Industrial Directory of the State of New York" (1937), Cattaraugus County had the following establishments:

Class	Number of Establishments	Number of Employees
Food and Kindred Products	77	615
Textiles	2	217
Leather and Leather Goods	3	736
Wood Products	28	431
Paper Products	1	109
Printing and Allied Industries	15	137
Chemicals	5	755
Clay Products	2	141
Glass Products	1	188
Metals and Metal Products	17	613
Machine Shops and Machine Builders	9	494
Petroleum Products	3	499
Transportation Equipment	5	395

Industrial Companies—There are few villages without food product plants, dairy products including ice cream, being turned out in more than thirty places. The milling of grain and the making of feeds is a widely spread activity. The Fuller Canneries of South Dayton and Otto, stand out in vegetable canning. Most meat products concerns and large bakeries are located in Olean, Salamanca and Gowanda, each also having beverage plants. In the field of textiles, Olean leads in silk and rayons, and Salamanca in worsted goods. The Moench Tanning Company, Inc., of Gowanda, and the Union Tanning Company, of Salamanca, stand out in this old, old industry of Cattaraugus. Perrysburg, Great Valley and Ellicottville specialized in the making of wood crates, baskets, etc.; Gowanda leads in barrel making (The International Cooperage Company), and the Randolph Company, of that place; Sterling and Fancher, of Salamanca, and the Brown Company, of Portville, all were making furniture. There was also the Portville Broom Company. Salamanca

had one, another town, one, and Ellicottville, two plants manufacturing barrel heads and shoe last blocks. The Arveyware Corporation, of Olean, was promising in the field of paper boxes, tubes and containers. In cutlery there were the large Ontario Knife Company, of Franklinville; the Union Cutlery Company, of Olean; the Little Valley Cutlery Company, and Kinfolks, Inc., both of the same town. In chemicals the Irving Mill at Limestone made nitroglycerine and allied materials. The Eastern Tanners Glue Company, at Gowanda, stands out as one of the largest of its kind in the world. There is also the small Cooper Glue Corporation, of Gowanda. Printing and allied products, together with newspaper plants, are established in the various towns. The history of newspapers has been told comprehensively by Miss Rickard in this volume. The Luminite Products—metal printing rollers—caters to a large clientele. For data concerning the Olean Pottery, Tile and Decoration Company (Ceramic Tiles), see the chapter on "Ceramics," by Major Edward Holmes.

Olean is also the home of the Olean Glass Company, employing between one to two hundred, in the making of flint glass, bottles and jars. Cattaraugus County foundries, makers of metal products, and sheet metal working are mainly small and supply a local trade. The chief exceptions being the Daystrom Metal Cabinet Corporation, employing about two hundred in Olean; and Clarke Brothers Company, Inc., of the same city, manufacturers of sawmill machinery, Diesel engines and compressors, employing up to five hundred people under normal conditions. Salamanca, Olean and Allegany have prospered from transportation, the several railroads in the county maintaining roundhouses and repair shops in these places. Then there is the large plant of the Socony-Vacuum Company of Olean. This city has gone far since 1830, when it sent a steamboat down the Allegheny River and expected to become a lumber and commercial city at the head of navigation. Salamanca is no longer a one-industry town that it started out to be when the Erie Railroad completed its line in 1851. Gowanda is no longer dependent upon the manufacture of glue; it is the center of a district rich in natural and improved resources. The incorporated villages of Cattaraugus, Ellicottville, Randolph and East Randolph, Franklinville, Delevan, South Dayton, Limestone, all have their individual advantages. It has been thirty-five years since a history of Cattaraugus County was published. What will be the record in 1975? Whatever it may be, no apologies will be offered for none will be needed. The motto of its people has always been "Excelsior," which may be interpreted "More to be achieved."

Part IV—Allegany County

Allegany Foothills

A high cheek bone upon the face of earth
With wrinkles deep and long from ancient mirth—
This is our country. Storm and fitful sun
Here mold a hardy folk as seasons run.
Here weather spurs when April is December
And will betray with April in November.
Yet earth is sweet with maple sap in Spring,
And apple tree and basswood blossoming.
Cattle pasture on the rolling hills,
And gullies grow where frost or freshet wills.
Brief Summers end in Autumn hills ablaze
While valleys fill with bonfires' pungent haze.
Six months of snow before impatient men
Can plow and seed their stony fields again.
Here live our people, bred of pioneers,
Content to toil and spare through meager years—
They wear the Winter in their ruddy faces
And Yankee wit in lieu of little graces.
Their politics descend from sire to son;
They hold a fealty vowed in 'sixty-one.
Some plodding, shrewd, and some whose eager mood
Finds paths are marked with signposts of "I should."
They have not lost the primal, reverent wonder
At rainbow, wasp and snail, the rip of thunder.
Since they have dared the roily foam of life
They throw the line to others in the strife.
These are the neighbor folk with whom we live
Whose hands that lift in prayer extend to give.

The Cuba Poetry Society

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(Suggested by a poem, "This Is My Country"—Robert P. Tristram Coffin.)

CHAPTER LIV

The Aborigines of Allegany County

By Raymond E. Douglas, Ph. D.

The Iroquois or Five Nations were such a warlike and influential group that their power was felt as far west as the Mississippi River. These are the Indians referred to by our pioneers, but they were by no means the earliest of the Aborigines of western New York. Traces of Indian culture are found which lead us to suppose that an Eskimo-like group lived here at one time. The semi-lunar knives and tools of slate have been found on the high lake terraces now two or three hundred feet above the river valley. These artifacts are rare, but suggest that these Indians used very little steatite or clay pottery. Gradually other tribes filtered in along the Susquehanna and Allegheny rivers from a region along the Ohio and Mississippi confluence. One of these early groups used steatite bowls, large stone or flint notched arrowheads, grooved axes, gorgets and stone pestles. There is no doubt that they were here in abundance, but they were a frugal race and only two complete soapstone dishes are found in the State museum from this culture. The next wave of migration produced relics which are found on the river terraces in considerable number. These include grooved axes, crude pottery, adzes, especially the beveled type, broad spear-like points and many narrow notched or shafted points. About this period scattered bands of the mound building Indians of Ohio of the Hopewell culture came into the country. They probably entered over the Cattaraugus and Allegany divides. Traces of this culture are found as scattered artifacts in Allegany County, but we have yet to open a mound of this group in the county limits. The nearest mounds of this culture are near Mt. Morris. Rumors of a mound near Portageville persist, but as is usually the case, some amateur, interested only in relics, has destroyed the evidence which may have been the very link needed to connect this culture with that of the mound build-

ers of Cattaraugus County. That the mound building Indians are a specific and ethnologically different group than the historic Indians is definitely disproved. The early explorers, the Spaniards and the Jesuits, described the process of mound building as they witnessed it. The historic Iroquois Indians built burial mounds and many of these have been found. The Hopewell culture involves a specific type of mound, frequently lined with stone, containing copper or mica ornaments, pearls, effigies and platform pipes.

Around the year 1500 or, possibly later, the Erie Indians who had been living around the shore of Lake Erie in Chautauqua County, gradually spread eastward toward the Genesee River. These Indians were either close relatives of the Iroquois or were greatly influenced by them, for the artifacts do not show the outstanding differences usually noticeable between the Algonkian and Iroquoian cultures. The Jesuits refer to these Indians as the Cat Nation, because of the presence of such a large quantity of wildcats in this country. The Genesee was doubtless a rich hunting ground and sooner or later a clash was bound to occur between the rising power of the Iroquois and these distant cousins. According to the "Jesuit Relations," a series of reports of the explorer priests, this clash took place in 1654 at the battle of the Big Bend. The exact location of this battleground is still a matter of opinion. The battle was decisive and from that day the Eries were a subjugated race.

Due to the custom of adopting the conquered tribes into their confederacy the Iroquois became such a powerful people that the French, English and Dutch vied with one another in trying to gain the good will of these people to further their own ends. The easy-going Frenchman seemed to be more adapted to the life of the Indian than either the English or the Dutch. In the early wars before the Revolution the Indians were very apt to be the French allies. During the Revolutionary War the British offered a better price to the Iroquois than did the Colonists and as a result practically all of the Indians, except the Oneidas, joined the King's forces.

In Allegany County the Senecas had their frontier towns. They were located near the river and on the route to Canada. Towns were located at Wellsville, Belmont, Belvidere, Caneadea, Angelica and Wiscoy. Since an Indian village frequently shifted its site it is not easy to say with any degree of certainty just where any village was located at any definite period. Certain villages seemed to shift less often than others. Among them were Gistaquat, Caneadea, Owaista, Long Beard's Town and Shongo's Town. Frequently evidence would

show that three cultures had occupied the same camp site at different periods in history. At Belmont, near the mouth of Phillips Creek, is located an extensive middens, still workable. A mound near by was destroyed when the Erie Railroad was built through Belmont. Graves have been opened at this place by the Rochester Museum and the evidence seems to show that this was the site of a prehistoric Iroquois group living about the year 1500. At Belvidere are many camp sites of the prehistoric Iroquois and the later Seneca. The Tucker collection in the Buffalo Museum came chiefly from this region. At the time of the French and Indian War and until 1825 or 1829 the the Indian town of Caneadea was located near the big bend. Mary Jemison speaks of the town and Moses Van Campen, a Revolutionary soldier and pioneer, ran the gauntlet here. It is thought that much of the mischief—such as the Cherry Valley and other Indian massacres—was concocted here. It was only one or two days' journey from the outposts of the army of General Sullivan in his punitive expedition, but the town escaped destruction. After the treaty with the Indians at the close of the Revolution, a reservation eight miles long and two miles wide was provided for the Senecas. It extended from the big bend (Caneadea) to the mouth of Wiscoy Creek. It contained several small hamlets, the largest of which was Gaoyadeo, of thirty houses, in 1796. Shongo's Town was located in the big bend, with Gaoyadeo just below it. Long Beard's house was located near the present-day Fillmore Hospital. Owaista, or the lower town, as contrasted with the upper towns, was located near Wiscoy. The last Indian census, about 1800, showed that less than five hundred (456) Indians lived on the Genesee Reservations. By 1825 the settlers were crowding out the Indians, who were soon transferred to the Allegany, Cattaraugus, and Tonawanda reservations. They came back at times to fish, and one hardy fellow named Copper Head refused to move and spent his last days on the edge of the present campus of Houghton College. His bones now rest under a monument called the Boulder, on the front campus.

Many stories are told of the spring feasts at the maple sugar season, the ceremony of the white dog or sin offering, and of the feast of the corn season. The Indians, when not under the influence of liquor, were friendly and quite neighborly with the early settlers. Whenever there occurred a turkey "shoot" or a barn raising some of the Indians would be sure to be present. One brave drank too much "fire water" and fell into a ditch near Fillmore. His friends found him a few days later, cold and stiff as a mackerel. He had frozen to

death. Relic hunters have walked over the Indian trails and plowed fields of Allegany County for a hundred years until one would think that every scrap of flint had been picked up. Many of the relics are of the Algonkian Indian of the river terraces, rather than those of the Seneca, who was the last Indian of the county. It is to be regretted that so many hunters are merely interested in the number and variety of relics that they can find rather than in collecting data to help build up a knowledge of the different cultures of the early inhabitants of our country.

There seems to be a different opinion in regard to the meaning of Caneadea, but as a town it is listed on Tryon's map and other early maps. It has been spelled in at least five different ways, ranging from Canasdar to Koundeau. The possible meanings of the name are as follows: 1. "Where the heavens kiss the earth." 2. "Heavenly rest." 3. "Handsome Lake." 4. "Falling Day." 5. "Level Heavens." The arguments for each name are as follows: 1. Gaoyadeo is the Seneca name for the town and Earl Bates offers the translation of "Where the heavens kiss the earth." 2. "Heavenly rest" is a local translation of Gaoyadeo. 3. One of the eight sachems of the Senecas was Handsome Lake of the Turtle clan (Gäneodiyo). 4. Falling Day was another sachem of the Snipe clan. The only support I have for "Falling Day" or "Level Heavens" is a slight similarity in names with the modern Caneadea and the fact that a peculiar totem, or hair ornament made of bone representing a bird on a perch, was dug from the middens of the Revolutionary Seneca site of Gaoyadeo. Since both the hawk and the snipe are Seneca gens or clans there might be a possible connection.

If every field from which an arrowhead had been picked up were considered an Indian village, Allegany County would have been very well peopled, yet authentic historical towns in the country would number less than ten. An expert archeologist can trace the sites of an Indian village. For example: the town of Caneadea at the big bend was changed at least three times. It might be of general interest to read an account of Major Van Campen's running the gauntlet as found in the "Life of William Pryor Letchworth":

In the spring of 1782, Van Campen, then a young officer in the Continental army, was captured on the upper waters of the Susquehanna by a party of Iroquois in command of a British lieutenant. Narrowly escaping the usual death of prisoners by torture, he and several of his soldiers were led by forced marches through the forest to Caneadea. Their arrival was the occasion for a savage jubilee, and

the amiable villagers demanded for themselves the customary privilege of causing the captives, in Iroquois fashion, to run the gauntlet. The course selected was about forty rods in length and the council house, as was usual on such occasions, was designated as the goal and place of refuge of the runners. Close behind them on each side of the path crowded the population of the village, young and old, and of both sexes, armed with cudgels and long whips, the warriors alone remaining dignified spectators of the scene. The signal was given and the indomitable Van Campen darted off first, nimble as a deer. The armed mob closed quickly upon him, and his case would have been desperate but for a bold coup to which he had resort. Directly in his track stood two stout young squaws, waiting their chance to strike the captive. Squarely at them, as if shot from a catapult, he threw himself, and with such effect that both were pitched headlong, and described several somersaults on their way to the ground. The absurd spectacle was too much, alike for Indian dignity and ferocity, and amidst the yells of uncontrollable laughter on the part of the crowd, the captives made their way easily to the council house.

This council house is the one that is now located in Letchworth Park on a little plateau above the museum.

The early settlers used to visit the Indians when the various feasts were held and it may be of general interest to read the account of two of these feasts, as told to John Minard by Loren Houghton, of Caneadea, who witnessed them on the Caneadea reservation:

A green corn dance, or feast, at the upper Caneadea village, was participated in by several hundred Indians, delegations being present from Buffalo, Tonawanda, Cattaraugus and Big Tree Reservations. Some idea of the multitude may be inferred from the magnitude of the preparations for their subsistence. The succotash was made in six five-pail brass kettles and the whole, once full, served for one meal. Twelve or fourteen deer were killed and the venison, cut up in pieces of a pound or more in weight, was thrown in with the green corn and beans and, without a particle of salt, all boiled together; and when sufficiently cooked the kettles were surrounded and each one helped him or herself, eating out of the kettles with wooden spoons, some with iron ones, and some provided with bowls or other dishes, would take out their portions and then retire, giving others not so well provided a chance immediately about the kettles. This feast passed off without any disturbance, no quarrel or unpleasantness marring the general good feeling and high enjoyment of all who participated in it. The next year the Caneadea Indians visited some other tribe upon the occurrence of this feast, and thus it passed around.

Their fourth feast, said the author of the "Life of Mary Jemison," was celebrated after corn harvest; and the fifth, at the close of the year, and was always celebrated at the close of the old moon in

the last of January or first of February. This last deserves particular description:

The Indians having returned from hunting, and having brought in all of the venison and skins they had taken, a committee was appointed, consisting of from ten to twenty-five men, to superintend the great sacrifice and thanksgiving that was to be celebrated. This being done, preparations were made at the council house or place of meeting for the reception and accommodation of the whole tribe; and then the ceremonies commenced, and the whole was conducted with a great deal of order and harmony, under the direction of the committee.

Two white dogs, without spot or blemish were selected (if such could be found and, if not, two that had the fewest spots), from those belonging to the tribe, and killed near the door of the council house by being strangled. A wound on the animal or an effusion of blood would spoil the victim and render the sacrifice useless. The dogs were then painted red on their faces, the edges of their ears, and on various parts of their bodies, and were curiously decorated with ribbons of various colors and five feathers, which were tied and fashioned in such a manner as to make a most elegant appearance. They were then hung on a post near the door of the council house at the height of twenty feet from the ground.

The committee then ran around to the dwellings of the tribe, caused the fires to be put out and new ones struck from the flint, scattered ashes about the lodges and warned out the occupants to the ceremonies. During the next few days the committee again made the rounds of the tribe, collecting contributions of tobacco and other articles to be used for incense or sacrifice. During these peregrinations the committeemen, who were hideously gotten up in masks and smeared with dirt, collected and concentrated in themselves the last year's sins and guilt of the tribe. On the eighth or ninth day they transferred the accumulation of iniquity to one of their number, and he by a peculiar sleight of hand or magic worked it out of himself into the bodies of the white dogs. The dogs were then burned, and in the smoke of the sacrificial fire, flavored with the offerings of tobacco, passed away the year's sins of the tribe. This interpretation of the heathenish ceremony has been questioned by some intelligent authorities, who, however, do not confidently offer any other. In later times the ceremonies occupied but from five to seven days, and only one dog was sacrificed. The meeting was made the occasion of deliberations on the administration of tribal affairs, and was closed with "a feast of succotash and a peace dance."

On the first of October, 1872, the last council of the Genesee was held at Letchworth Park. Representatives and relatives of Brant,

Sir William Johnson, Red Jacket, Corn Planter, Parker, Jemison, Shongo and Governor Blacksnake were present, as well as ex-President Fillmore and the poet, Hosmer. Today the occasional discovery of some arrowheads or pottery and the Indian names of towns, creeks, and rivers remind us of the former presence of the red man.

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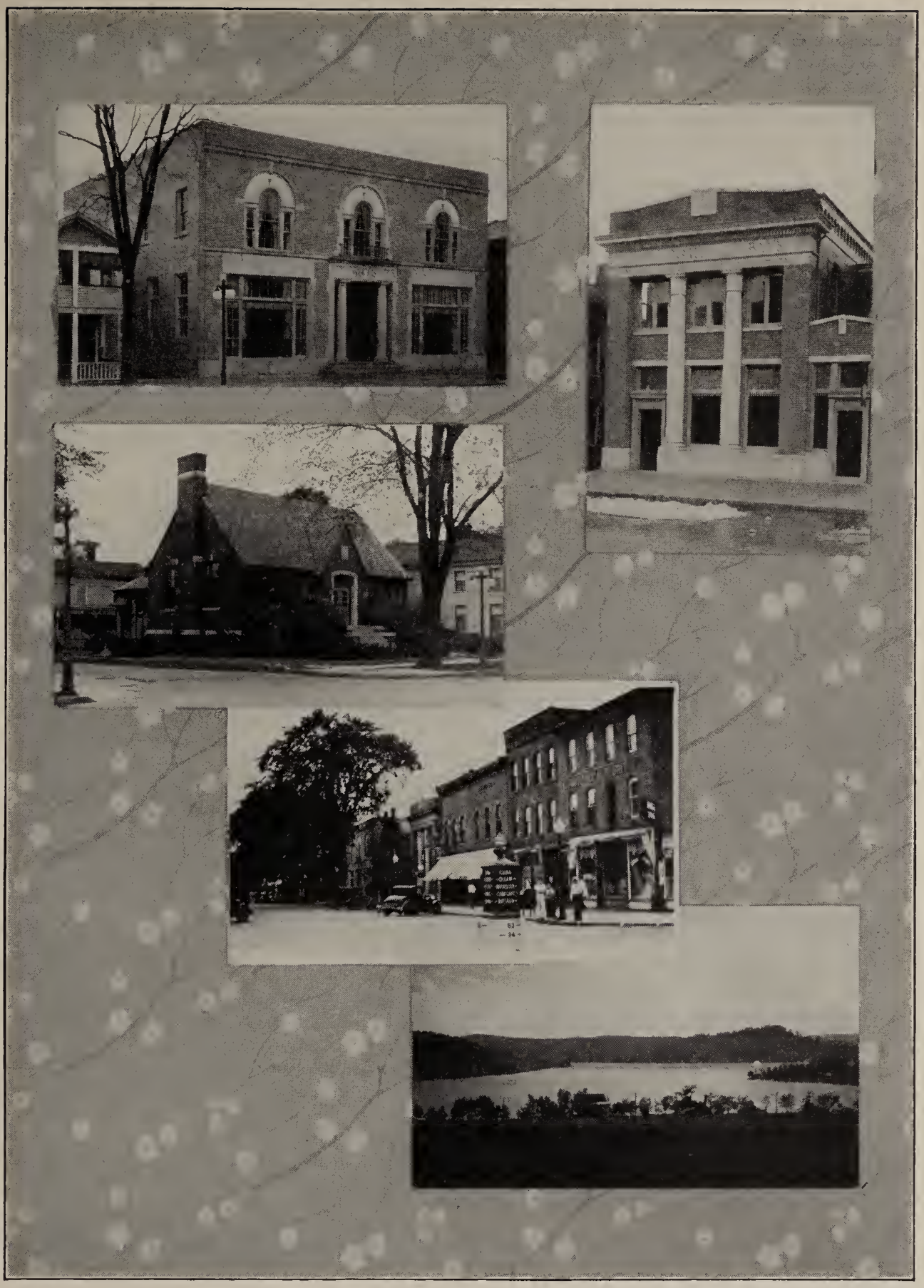
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CHAPTER LV

Allegany Towns and Their Pioneers

In the year 1939, the World's Fair, in New York City, was commemorating events that occurred prior to any permanent settlement by the white man in southwestern New York. Yet this does not mean that this part of the State and especially Allegany County has no ancient and romantic history. Three centuries ago a remnant of the Erie tribe sought refuge in its hills from inevitable destruction by the Senecas and Onondagas (1654-56). For a hundred and fifty years the land here has been owned by the "pale faces," a part of it being sold by the Senecas to Robert Morris, financier, of Revolutionary fame. Long before this the adventurer and scout for Champlain, one Étienne Brulé was probably the first white man to enter the region. The second evidently was Joseph de la Roche d'Allion, Franciscan friar, who in 1626, visited the "Seneca Indian Oil Spring," in the present county, the earliest recorded discovery of petroleum on the American Continent. The first successful oil well in Allegany County, however, "Triangle No. 1," was not drilled until 1879. La Salle, French explorer, and Captain Céloron may have visited this territory in the seventeenth century. Much of this exploration is traditional as to dates, and the heart and memory thrills more to the story of Mary Jemison, "The White Woman of the Genesee," and her arrival at Caneadea, in 1762; and to Major Moses Van Campen's exploits as an Indian fighter and Revolutionary hero, especially the tale of his running a gauntlet for the entertainment of the Indian village at Caneadea in the spring of 1782. One likes to read that later he returned to make his home near the scene of this exploit.

From their homes in the northern ramparts of the Allegheny Plateau, the present-day residents can look with pride into the past, both as regards ancient history and the lives and deeds of its pioneer settlers. These new owners of a land tragic to the Indian, developed the area well in days of peace, but while still forest primeval inter-



(Courtesy of Miss M. H. Sisson, Cuba)

CUBA

Top left: Bartlett, Morgan and Keller Building, Renaissance style. Top right: Cuba National Bank, modified Corinthian type. Reading down: Public Library, Main Street, and Cuba Lake.

spersed with meadows and small areas once cultivated by the aborigine, they and their progenitors have brought it renown in the fields of human endeavors.

Nathaniel Dike (Dyke?) is credited with being the first permanent settler of southwestern New York. This Revolutionary soldier located, in 1795, on the creek bearing his name, near or on the site of modern Wellsville. Allegany was the first county established of the three now comprising one congressional district. It was erected in 1806. At that time it was much larger in area and included parts of what are now Cattaraugus, Wyoming, Steuben and Livingston counties. A study by Norton York, of Wellsville, discloses that there have been twenty-four changes in Allegany, mainly in the establishment of new towns or the loss of townships. Each division has its local history and a richness of lore that cannot be more than suggested within the limits of this sketch.

Alfred—Beautifully located among the hills, derives its national repute from being the home of Alfred University, the largest institution of higher education founded under the auspices of the Seventh Day Baptist denomination. It was incorporated by the New York State Regents, 1843, as "Alfred Academy," the academy dating from 1836. The pleasant college village of Alfred is located on the site of the farm of the first settler of both village and town, Clark Crandall, from Rensselaer County, New York, who came in May, 1807. The first church in the section, Seventh Day Baptist, was formed in 1816.

Allen—Named for the "Hero of Ticonderoga," seems to have acquired no permanent resident until 1820, although it is a tradition that Major Moses Van Campen had been in the present township in 1811. The name and exploits of this Indian and Revolutionary fighter, and later settler, is attached to a number of places in western New York.

Alma—Has a record of a rise and ebb in industry and population that is noteworthy. Its first settler, Warren Huff (Hough?), from Quebec, Canada, evidently was attracted by the dense forest. Lumbering almost from the first has been important to the area. The discovery of petroleum in paying quantities encouraged both settlers and speculation. Today it depends mainly upon dairying.

Almond—The first man to locate was the Rev. Andrew Gray, in Karr Valley, 1796. In the zeal of his faith he held the first religious

service in this section and organized the first church in all this part of the county during the following year.

Amity—Dates its development from 1803, when John T. Hyde came here from Andover and took over land near the present village of Belvidere. But few joined him and it was not until about 1822 that the first mill was built. The first general store was not erected until 1830.

Andover—Claims Nathaniel Dike as one of its pioneers in 1795. Andover village, founded by Alpheus Baker, in 1807. It early became a mercantile and shipping center of a large agricultural area, and down the years acquired several industries of its own, such as the making of cutlery and chiffon.

Angelica—Modern or ancient, is interesting. It was named after a daughter of General Philip Schuyler, Angelica Schuyler Church. Philip, her son, purchased 100,000 acres of land in this section of southwestern New York on foreclosure of a mortgage given by Robert Morris, Revolutionary War financier. Major Van Campen, of previous mention, was employed to survey the tract, Philip Schuyler being a member of the party. A site for a village was chosen in 1801, a mill built within a year, and a tavern and a store during the following year. The choice proved to be good and Angelica grew rather more rapidly than most settlements. In fact, this expansion continued for a century. Lumbering, dairying contributed to this growth, and still does. Later railroad repair shops gave employment to many. The village was incorporated in 1835. Angelica points with pride to its original Allegany County Courthouse (State Armory) as the birthplace of the Republican party. Friendship, in this same county, and Ripon, Wisconsin, also claim the same distinction. The least that can be said is that Angelica nominated the first candidates of the Republican party in the State of New York.

Belfast—Was first settled on the Genesee River in 1803, by the four Chamberlain brothers from Pennsylvania. The grouping of sawmills in what became an important enterprise, led to the founding of Belfast village in about 1830.

Birdsall—The smallest town in the county, was started by Josiah Whitman, in 1816, who was the lone settler in the region for two years.

Bolivar—Became important as a town and village by the utilization of natural resources. Zephaniah Smith built a hunting cabin in the area, in 1816. Timothy Cowles, a Vermonter, cast an experienced eye on its timber in 1819, and remained to become the first permanent settler. It was many years later that it was discovered that the area lay above the Allegany Oil Pool and since has shared in the benefits of the petroleum industry. The village of Bolivar was incorporated in 1882.

Burns—The first settlement was made in this township in 1805 by the Gregory brothers in 1805 on Canaseraga Creek. The hamlet Burns was the principal settlement until about 1840, but after this Canaseraga village began to take first place. Its name was derived from the Indian for "among the elms" and was incorporated in 1892.

Caneadea—Possesses the only Indian name taken by any of the towns in Allegany County, which is as it should be, for it was the "western door" of the Iroquois Nation. When Joel Seaton came, in 1830, he purchased a lot on which the aborigine town of the name was located, including the large council house. In 1872 this old construction was rededicated by the descendants of famous "Six Nation" chiefs. In about 1800 one Schoonover located his home within the present township, and planted the first apple nursery in the county.

Centerville—Never having a population much exceeding one thousand, was settled by Joseph Maxson and James Ward, in 1807.

Clarksville—Of about the same population as Centerville, until recent decades, had for its first settler Horatio G. Slayton, who in 1832 came from Cuba.

Cuba—Once boasting that it had the largest artificial body of water in the world, is today one of the most popular summer resorts in Allegany County. The beautiful lake was created as a feeder to the Genesee Valley and Erie Canal, but was abandoned as such with the advent of railroads. Although the Holland Land Company had articled in 1806 a number of its plots in present Cuba, it is probable that the first permanent settlers were Salmon Abbott and others, who did not arrive until 1817. North Cuba was the first hamlet of importance, but with the completion of the Olean Turnpike in 1822, lost its premier place to Cuba, now a pleasant village of about fifteen hundred inhabitants. Over a long period it was one of the banner cheese towns in a county notable for its production of this commodity.

Friendship—The name of one Samuel Wardell is associated with this town as its pioneer (1807), although Peter (or Richard) Frier, is said to have located within the present town, possibly in 1806. Whoever it was who first dwelt in this section, he was joined by many others in the years that followed to the beginning of the present century. The village of Friendship has long held its place in the sun as the seat of almost half of the population of the township. The part it played in the founding of the Republican party must be determined by further study of facts. The hearty support given the candidacy of Abraham Lincoln, and other nominees of this party through the years, cannot be questioned.

Genesee—Name of a region once famous for its fertile Indian plantings, was adopted by a town almost mountainous in character. Its forest furnished the basis of its first prosperity; petroleum, from the drilling of the first well in the area in 1877, promoted both wealth and speculation. It now is farming country, although the planting of trees goes on extensively and timber may again become its major resource. Jabez Burdick, in 1823, built the first home in the present town, on Genesee Creek. John Bell is supposed to have located here as early as 1817.

Granger—Once the home of large herds of sheep, is now a dairying section. Its first settler was Reuben Smith, who brought his family to land near Short Tract.

Grove—Was pioneered by John White, in May, 1818, coming from Herkimer County, New York. Alexander Bailey, from Vermont, became his first neighbor during the following spring.

Hume—The best land in this town was once owned by Caneadea Indians. The first settlement was at Mills Falls, made in 1807 by Roger Mills, who used the upper falls as a power site.

Independence—Has a creek bearing the name of Cryder, named after John Cryder, who early dwelt upon it, but neither owned any land or remained long. Samuel S. White was the first permanent settler, locating in the spring of 1819 at what became the main village in the town, Whitesville.

New Hudson—Was developed first by John Spencer and Joseph Patterson, both in the northern part. In 1820, Spencer Lyon located in the south section.

Rushford—Dates its settlement from 1808 and Eneas Garey, who was located on Lot No. 30. The main village, Rushford, was the first in New York State to specialize in the manufacture of "pine-apple" cheeses, in which industry it held leadership for half a century.

Scio—Had for its first settler Joseph Knight, who built his home near the mouth of the creek still called by his name. From Scio, the village, one could see eight sawmills in the 1860s.

Ward—Was first settled in 1817 by Abraham Waldruff. Daniel Hart and Hezekiah Ward settled within the next year.

Wellsville—Might have celebrated a centennial in either 1939 or 1940, in appreciation of what the railroad did for an area none too attractive to the pioneers of the county because of its steep uplands and distance from markets. Settled comparatively late, it grew to be the most populous village and town in Allegany, thanks to the railroad, a post-Civil War boom, and the discovery of oil nearby, in 1879. The history of Wellsville is related in the chapter by E. Willard Barnes, in this volume.

West Almond—Least populated of the towns, was first settled by Daniel Atherton, in 1816, who opened a tavern during the following year.

Willing—Continued in the lumber business probably longer than any other town. Its pioneer was Elijah Robinson, of Madison County, New York, who located his home near the Genesee River, in 1825, and thereafter built a sawmill and made other improvements.

Wirt—Another upland town, had for its first settlers Benjamin Crabtree and Levi Abbott (1812).

CHAPTER LVI

Political History of Allegany County

By Ellis J. Hopkins

No summary of the political history of a body politic as large as a county can properly be made, or intelligently understood, without a fair perspective of the social and economic conditions concurrent with the period of such history or summary. Presumably, political history at its best is only a result; and the proper factors of cause are to be found in other branches of study. It is reasonable to assume, also, that political history, in time past, has been as much affected by social and economic factors as political considerations are now, granting that our forebears did not have the advantage of such *clichés* as "class consciousness" or "social consciousness."

One might be impressed, however, with the fact that political changes have occurred in Allegany County to a lesser extent than one might assume. For example, in 1835, by a fairly close vote, the county voted in favor of turning into the general fund of the State, duties levied upon proceeds of auction sales, and proceeds from duties on salt. By substituting "gas" for "salt" some of the problems of 1835 are made comparable to those of 1939.

Several definable factors should be considered, however, in relation to the political history of the county. One is that the county in times past, and for certain intervals in its existence was much larger than it is at the present time. It included portions of what are now Livingston, Steuben, Wyoming and Cattaraugus counties, and the earlier reports of the board of supervisors contain curious references to towns now strange to us, such as Ossian, Eagle, Pike, Nunda, Portage, Olean and Ischua. The latter two townships, with other Cattaraugus towns, were a part of the county for two years only and only Olean and Ischua have had any particular part in Allegany County political history. For a period extending until 1820 the towns of

Olean and of Ischua, although a part of Cattaraugus County, as defined in the Act of 1808, nevertheless, continued to work as political entities with Allegany County. The reports of the county showing the activities of the board of supervisors for those years refer to the two townships as being a portion of Cattaraugus County, and separate audits were made for them. An unpublished but exhaustive study by Norton York, of Wellsville, New York, shows that since 1806, no less than twenty-four changes have been made in the contour of Allegany County, either through the lopping off of certain townships or through the division of larger original townships into smaller ones.

The size of the county had certain political disadvantages in a political way. For each town to vote, and to report to the board of supervisors, from Cuba to the west, to Eagle on the north, and to Ossian on the east, to have the results finally checked and audited, was not easy. The records of the county of the votes taken for various candidates and on various propositions are fairly complete on and after 1832, but not prior. We do know, however, that presumably because of the geographical size of the county the elections were held, earlier, on three consecutive days. In 1832, for example, November 5, 6 and 7 were voting days—a practice which continued until 1842. Two other factors have affected materially the political history of the county. One is the relative stability of the size of its population. To take one specific date, 1845, the population of the county was 45,975. In 1930 the population of Allegany County was 38,025. It is true, of course, that the population of the county must be considered in light of the fact that in 1846 the townships of Eagle, Pike, Nunda and Portage were lost permanently and Ossian in 1856. For nearly a century the population of the county has varied but little, and with no influx of settlers after 1830, and with no great industrial expansion at any time. Then again the county has had almost continuous identity in its enterprises. Its principal industry, from the time it was settled until the present time, has been, and is, agriculture, and within limitations the same type of agriculture. Industrially, its business, at the most has been only incidental and isolated, and as a county there have been no rapid expansions nor great developments of industries and manufacturing. A third element is that there has been an almost total absence of racial differences. A county whose people have been nearly one hundred per cent. of white and of north European ancestry, it never has had the bases for sectional, religious or racial distinction, that so frequently affects politics. It is evident then, that if a

single party has dominated the political existence of the county for a period of about two-thirds of its whole existence that the situation is as one would expect, where there has been no violent change either in the type of occupation, or in the character of the people within its boundaries. It is not the purpose of this article to review local political factions and results that arise as frequently from personalities as from principles, but rather to recapitulate the history of the county in relation to general politics.



(Courtesy of Roy A. Peck)

ALLEGANY COUNTY-SEAT BUILDINGS AT BELMONT

Official records of the county for its earlier years give it interesting sidelights as to the scope and type of government. In addition to the electors for President and Vice-President, and the usual State officers, such as Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, we find frequent references to votes cast for such officials and for such offices as State Land Commissioner, Canal Commissioners, Prison Inspectors—offices which long since have ceased to exist as elective ones if they survive at all.

From the earliest the voting inhabitants of the county have chosen by popular vote the offices of Assemblyman, county clerk, sheriff and coroner. It is important that in a pioneer society the latter two offices should have had a significance, which, to some extent, subsequently

was lost. Other county offices were appointive. In order to properly understand the political picture of the county it is necessary to check the Constitution adopted in 1846. In 1845 the county as well as the State voted by substantial margin to have a constitutional convention the next year. Apparently, up-State New York, then, had not fallen into the habit, as now generally is done, of voting against any and all special propositions submitted to its voters, irrespective of merit. In 1846 the county, as well as the State, approved the amended Constitution and in 1847 effect was given to such Constitution in the political setup of the county. The changes effected by the Constitution of 1846 were more substantial than any ones previously made, and for the most part such changes persist to this day. For the first time there appear as elective offices, in 1847, the offices of Judge of the Court of Appeals and Justice of the Supreme Court, offices designated by new terms supplanting the earlier ones of common law. For the first time in that year the office of county judge and surrogate was elective by people, and the office of district attorney, which hitherto had been filled by appointment of the court, was made elective. Eighteen hundred and forty-seven marked also the first appearance of "Justices for Sessions." These were two justices of the peace, generally laymen, commonly called side-judges, who for many years presided in solemn state with the county judge. The exact reason for such offices and their functions are not clear, because, from information derived from older legal practitioners, it appears that they never interfered with the administration of justice as the legally trained county judge administered it. It is conceivable that the offices had their origin in some earlier attempt to liberalize, to use a current term, and to vary through non-legal minds the too well-defined grooves into which formal law found itself. The more likely reason is that it marked the decadence of the power of the justice of peace. "Justices Guide or Directory for the Justice of Peace," published in 1825, and formerly owned by a member of the Allegany County bar of that time, is contemporary authority for the statement that the justice courts of the State handled more litigation and total values than all the other courts of the State. The offices of "Justices for Session" then probably were more titular than important. The offices of county treasurer and superintendent of the poor, three of the latter, were made elective offices in 1848. The Constitution of 1846 did not change the Assembly districts of the county, and for many years thereafter, as well as prior, Allegany County had two Assembly districts and two Assemblymen,

the districts being referred to occasionally as the northern and the southern districts. With the exception of some change in terminology, and with the loss of an Assembly district, the political government of the county has remained largely the same during the succeeding years.

In discussing the political history of the county, a casual glance at the supporting financial side has some probative value. Eighteen hundred and twenty-six John Cooke was paid $159.91 for his services as district attorney. In 1863 one H. Wygant received $700 a year; and by 1888 the salary of the office attained the princely amount of $1,000 a year. In 1825 Joseph Wilson received $48.03 from the county as salary for sheriff. In the same year Amos Peabody received a salary of $192.61 as compensation for being county clerk. It is to be assumed, and hoped, that each of these gentlemen received additional compensation in the way of fees. A reference to the cost of our political government might be advertent. In 1808 the supervisors appropriated $1,500 for both a county courthouse and a jail. The jail was built. In 1819 the courthouse was built for $6,000 upon which in the following year the records indicate the county paid seven per cent. interest. In 1937 and 1938, another courthouse, a third, was built at the cost of $225,000. The amount levied to meet the cost of government in 1825 was $6,241.01. In 1863 it was necessary to levy in taxes $102,157.90. In 1938 county governmental requirements in its various towns and as a county unit created a tax total of $575,941.41.

The political machinery of the county prior to the Civil War in some respects was as top-heavy and as expensive as it now is. In 1839 the voters of Allegany County took three days to cast seven hundred and sixteen (716) votes for, and seven (7) votes against a proposition amending the Constitution of the State to permit the election of mayors of cities by the people, and with Allegany County having no cities at that time or since! However, political endeavors inclined exclusively to party issues. In 1849, the "New School Law" was voted upon and carried. Parenthetically, it is interesting to note that in the same year Asa A. Cole, subsequently an important figure in the county's politics, received two votes for county clerk. The new school law, however, did not stick in the county because, in 1850, when a vote was had upon its repeal, its abolition was favored by nearly the same vote as favored its passage two years before.

One of the most significant votes occurred in 1846, an election apparently ignored by history, but which is as interesting to the sociologist and the student of political affairs as any held in Allegany County, either prior or subsequent to the Civil War. County records

indicate that in that year a proposition was submitted in substantially the following form: "Shall equal suffrage be given to colored persons?" (Werner's "Civil List" describes the proposition as being one for the repeal of the property qualifications for colored citizens.) The result of the election, to modern eyes, at least, is amazing. Fourteen hundred eighty-seven (1487) of our good white Nordic citizens, and after due deliberation, decided that a colored person should be permitted to vote. There were twenty-eight hundred fifty-four (2854) other white male voters who voted "no." In other words, fourteen



(Courtesy of the Wellsville Daily Reporter)

CARPENTER STORE BUILDING, WELLSVILLE

One of the original Main Street buildings of more than eighty years ago. Until it was razed in 1926 it was a landmark, and the site is now occupied by a gasoline filling station. In the early days, farmers came to the store once a year to pay bills.

years before the War Between the States, which we have assumed was fought on the slavery issue, and by no portion of the North more violently than Allegany County, public sentiment was not anti-South and was definitely anti-abolitionist. The reason for this attitude could not be any particular prejudice against the negro because at that time, at the most, there could not have been more than a dozen in the entire county. Within ten years we definitely were on the road to war, and

in 1860 on a similar proposition the vote in the county was almost exactly reversed! At that, the county at the threshold of war at the time of the second vote, was more consistent than the State which, again (on the authority of the "Civil List"), refused to grant equal suffrage—and in the latter aspect, apparently, the revisionist historian has some basis for the claim of an economic rather than a social basis for the Civil War.

Throughout a greater portion of the history of Allegany County we find an almost unbelievable adherence to party lines, and this was as true prior to 1850, in general, as it was after 1860. In 1840, where the voters had a choice of two out of four, the two winning candidates for Assembly received 4,097 and 4,088 votes, respectively, and the losers 3,442 and 3,447, respectively. The sharpness of political controversy is apparent in the elections of 1850, when Seymour received 3,180 votes for Governor, and his rival, Hunt, 3,249. In the same year one Davison, candidate for district attorney, received 3,207 votes as against 3,106 votes on the opposition ticket. Such rivalry had a healthy effect, making the elections truly democratic. In 1840, as an illustration, approximately 7,500 votes were cast for Governor. Comparing that number with 14,011 cast for Governor in 1934, and making allowances for the lack of equal suffrage at the earlier date, it would appear that the residents of Allegany County in 1840 were at least as interested as those of our own time. Such close competition presumably shows a healthier condition than now, when party caucuses have a tendency to decide issues.

A political analysis of the county necessarily must be statistical. Fortunately, official records of the county from 1832 on are reasonably complete, particularly as to the major parties. Detail is missing as to the minority parties which occasionally appear. From 1832 on, with a single exception, the Democratic party was ever in the minority in the county. In 1832 the Whig ticket received 2,334 votes and the Democratic ticket, successful in the State and the Nation, received 2,111. Peculiarly, the Democrat, Martin Van Buren, in 1836, came nearer to creating a Democratic margin. He, or the electors representing him, received 2,615 votes as against 2,690 votes cast for William H. Harrison. A disparity of seventy-five votes thus separated the two major parties. By 1840, the Whig trend had became Statewide, and the electoral votes of the State, for the first time, were cast for a Whig candidate, and in Allegany County the Whig majority was increased from seventy-five of 1836, to 753. The Democratic party had suffered a split and we find, for the first time, scattering votes for

small minority parties or tickets. In 1844 the Whigs had a majority of 272. In 1848, Zachary Taylor received 2,789 votes as against 2,040 for Lewis Cass. An unidentified minority party, probably Millard Fillmore Whigs, received 1,283, and another unidentified minority party, probably a branch of the Democratic party, received forty-one.

In 1852 the State and Nation again went Democratic, and surprisingly enough, and for the only time since 1832, Allegany County, likewise went Democratic. Franklin Pierce, Democratic candidate, received 4,700 votes to 3,670 votes for the Whig, Winfield Scott. Scattering votes to minority parties contributed to this result.

The greatest upheaval in the political history of the county occurred in 1856, when John C. Frémont, Republican, carried both the State and the county. In the county he received six thousand five hundred forty-five (6,545) votes to one thousand six hundred forty (1,640) for the successful candidate, James Buchanan. In other words, Allegany County had gone radical, despite its conservative stand on the negro question a decade earlier. Some eight hundred fifty-six (856) votes again were cast for another unidentified party, but apparently the remnant of the Whig party. In 1860 Republican candidate, Abraham Lincoln, received six thousand four hundred forty-three (6,443) votes, and Breckinridge, the Democratic candidate, in the split party, two thousand five hundred thirty (2,530).

Homer dead, his birthplace traditionally was claimed by seven cities. Allegany County, not content with one, has two villages within its borders which claimed the origin of the Republican party—both Angelica and Friendship. Ripon, Wisconsin, likewise, has made a similar claim. In reviewing the political history of the county, no attempt has been made to segregate or authenticate the respective claims. "Not Proved," would seem to be a reasonable verdict and, while we can admit that the origin of any party such as the Republican is more or less spontaneous, rather than localized, nevertheless, no one can dispute the early and consistent position of Allegany County in the party.

The political history of the county, subsequent to 1860, has been unvarying, without a single interruption of the regular and generally usual Republican pluralities. On national issues it might be said that the Civil War disrupted the two party system in Allegany County and put a single party in permanent control.

In 1876 the "Allegany County Reporter," the leading Republican weekly of the time, reported a majority for Hayes over Tilden in the

county of two thousand nine hundred ninety-eight (2,998). In the county a Prohibition candidate received seven votes, and there were two votes cast for the anti-Masonic candidate. The editor, commenting upon the futility of both of these party votes, suggested that no one voted for General Jackson because "somebody didn't think of it in time." An estimated two or three hundred votes were cast for Cooper, the Greenback candidate. The same newspaper estimated that the few votes cast in the village of Wellsville for Cooper cost the taxpayers $100 a vote. In 1880 the dominant party, for the first time, and beginning with November 1 of that year, had a daily publication, "The Wellsville Daily Reporter." In the third issue of it, it describes the majority of Garfield over Hancock of 3,345, although Wellsville, the largest village in the county, went for Hancock by a majority of sixty-three. The same election gave nineteen Republican supervisors to the county, eight Democrats and, peculiarly enough, two Greenbacks, the supervisors from the towns of Alma and Ward. The minority party had learned some of the methods of the majority party in the previous Hayes-Tilden campaign, and the Democratic supervisors made an attempt to void the electoral votes for the county, because the word "electors" appeared on the back as well as on the front of the ticket.



RESIDENCE OF E. B. HALL, WELLSVILLE

"The Pink House," once the home of one of the greatest fossil collections of its kind in the United States.

Bryan was beaten in the county by 3,266 votes in 1896. The virulence of political feeling at the time appears in the following letter written by a business man and printed in the "Wellsville Daily Reporter" shortly after election, with the high approval of that publication. (Published November 7, 1896):

Hurrah for Wm. McKinley! Hurrah for Honest Money! Hurrah for American credit! Hurrah for Businessmen's Franchise, the salvation of the country this time! Down with Free dishonest Money (silver). Down with Altgeldism, Tildenism! Down with Coxeyism and Bryanism! Down with Breckenridge of Kentucky! Thank God for people who read! Thank God for this great victory over anarchism, socialism and the like! Thank God for you and I are on the right side!

With reference to Altgeld, the passage of forty years apparently has reversed, in the public mind, the gentleman's opinion, and in place of anarchism and socialism, we have other pet anathemas.

In 1900, 1904 and 1908, national elections show merely a repetition of Republican majorities with only occasionally varying proportions. In 1904, the magnetic Theodore Roosevelt received a majority of 5,117 over his less magnetic but able opponent, Parker. Not until 1912 was there a serious schism which disturbed the monotony of the political consistency of the county. In 1912 the Progressive party was strong in the county, and we find the tabulation of the following votes in that year:

Taft—Republican	3,668
Roosevelt—Progressive	2,664
Wilson—Democrat	2,777
Chafin—Prohibition	449
Debs—Socialist	283

The break in the party not only was on national issues, but was carried down to minute details in town and county elections. Dawson D. Dickson, of Angelica, New York, long a leading member of the Allegany County bar, as Progressive candidate for Assembly, received 2,443 votes to 3,769 for Ransom Richardson, the regularly endorsed Republican candidate. Unlike the political effects of the causes of the Civil War, the Progressive, or "Bull Moose" party soon relinquished its hold in Allegany County. Reference to the election of 1916 shows that Hughes received 6,208 votes as Republican candidate; Wilson, as the Democratic candidate, 3,195; and the Prohibition candidate 487. The Progressive movement, at least as a party, had disappeared. It is important to note that in disappearing, it apparently reverted almost entirely to the party from which it came, the Republican, and the Democratic party profited but little.

From 1916 through 1936, presidential elections have shown no new trends. In the latter year, the established majority party had a majority of 8,602—a suggestion that eighty years have changed the political complexion of the county not at all.

Prior to the Civil War, small minority parties, not named in the available records, and since the Civil War, various known minority parties have created momentary flurries, only to vanish soon from the ticket. Reference has been made to the "Greenback" party of the later seventies and early eighties, which had in those times a few hundred votes in the county. In 1896, the Populist movement, so strong in the Middle West, affected Allegany County to the extent of only 316 votes; and by 1904 the followers of Mr. Watson had dwindled to fifty-three. The Socialist party, never very strong, apparently polled as many votes in 1936, 375, as the party ever has polled in the county. Even Debs, who chose to rise "not from, but with" the masses, received but 283 votes in 1912.

Of the smaller parties, the Prohibition party has been the most consistent in time past. It first appeared in the county as recently as 1876, when it polled its seven votes. By 1880, it had attained the total of 486 votes, and in 1904 a total of 650 votes. Ostensibly, the party was on the march. By 1912, however, the vote shrank to 249, and thereafter never rose again above the 475 received in 1916. With the passing of the Eighteenth Amendment, the Prohibition party ceased to exist as a political unit in the county, and not even the Twenty-first Amendment has been effective in reconstituting it. While the suggestion may be controversial, yet it is apparent that there was little, if any, correlation between temperance achievements in the county and the Prohibition party. In every township in the county, the party was a negligible factor in local politics, and in the county not large enough to influence even the election of any candidate for county office; nevertheless, by the time that the Eighteenth Amendment finally was passed, the county had become virtually dry, with the exceptions only of one or two townships, through non-partisan excise election.

While the succession of county officers has not been within the scope of this article, nevertheless, for the purpose of the record, the present county officers are here listed:

Sheriff—Edson Brigham.
County Judge and Surrogate—Ward M. Hopkins.
Supreme Court Judge in Residence—Bernard B. Ackerman.
District Attorney—E. Allen Mapes.
Commissioner of Public Welfare—Ivan B. Howe.
County Clerk—William B. Bush.
County Treasurer—Claude Cummings.
Commissioner of Highways—Harry Craig.
Election Commissioners—Harry Keller and Percy Collins.

CHAPTER LVII

Allegany Military Annals

That area of land known as Allegany County has, since the days of written records, been a singularly peaceful country. Although formerly occupied by one of the most belligerent members of the Iroquois Federation, the Senecas, this tribe did most of its fighting elsewhere. The French, English and Indian wars throughout a century; the American Revolution and one of its Sullivan-Brodhead campaigns; the War of 1812, all affected regions round about Allegany, but seldom were battles fought upon its soil, and then only by the aborigines. There were no white people living here when the Colonies threw off the yoke of Britain, and since the United States was organized, a citizen of the county has had to go to the aid of his country many miles distant from his home. It is a matter of history that Allegany has been generous of its sons and resources when participating in American military ventures.

Indian Wars—It seems strange that the "Genesee Senecas," who derived their name from the river that flows through the middle of Allegany County, carried on their warfare at all points of the compass away from Allegany County, with minor exceptions. They were "Keepers of the Western Gate of the Long House," at the Genesee River, yet seldom were attacked here by the Eries, the "Cat Nation," their enemies on the west, who may, prior to 1650, have occupied a part of Allegany County. After repeated acts of treachery and murder by both nations, the Eries and the Senecas met in the most decisive battle fought on Allegany soil, near Caneadea in 1655, which ended in a crushing victory over the "Cats." Before a year was past the Eries were being either destroyed or driven from New York by the Senecas and the Onondagas.

For a decade after the Erie War, the Senecas frequently attacked French settlements to the north and minor tribes to the east. Before the end of the seventeenth century they had marched against Indians

in the southwest, but in the meanwhile had suffered severely from the French, sought revenge against these enemies from France. But what they gained in warfare they lost in diplomacy, for they made friendly compacts with the French which split the Seneca Nation into west and east parties. The western Senecas were caught between the upper and nether millstones of French and English pressure and became greatly reduced in numbers and strength. During this period they wandered farther south and built towns along the upper reaches of the Genesee River in what is now Allegany County, where they became hunters for pelts rather than agriculturists and dwellers in villages. They had found a refuge and peace, and the Indians in this area took but a minor part in the marauding which was punished by the English after the surrender of New France, and by Continental forces during the American Revolution. This statement, no doubt, will be questioned by those who consider the Senecas as a whole instead of as a divided nation. To the writer it appears probable that the Senecas living in the present Allegany County section had little to do with the depredations which led to the punitive expeditions of Brodhead and Sullivan in 1779. Whether this be true or not, Allegany Senecas suffered by little from these expeditions, for Brodhead never reached this region and Sullivan, whose march is usually labeled as against the "Allegany Senecas," invaded but a small corner of the present county area.

The treaty of Fort Stanwix (1784) and that of Big Tree (1797), did all sorts of things to the territorial claims of the Senecas and other members of the Six Nations. These pacts left little of a vast domain to the aborigines of western New York, but enough. The principal reservation in Allegany County was the Caneadea (officially called Kaounadeau) two miles wide and eight miles long on both sides of the Genesee River. Perhaps we have a false perspective of the numerical strength of the Indians of long ago. It is doubtful whether more than a few hundred Senecas ever dwelt in the Allegany County region. Sir William Johnson probably made an over-estimate when he reported in 1763 that the number of Seneca warriors was 1,050. In 1783, Missionary Kirkland said there were no more than 600; the Federal government found but 1,780 Senecas of all kinds; in 1818, Jasper Parrish, the Indian agent, reported officially: "the population of the Six Nations of Indians is 1,475." There are twice that number of Senecas, alone, in the State at the time of this writing (1939).

We have strayed too far afield in dwelling upon the only military history that was made upon the soil of Allegany. When Nathaniel

Dike, Revolutionary soldier, in 1795 initiated the first permanent settlement of the county near Wellsville, peace reigned in the land, and this never since has been broken by Indians. Little is known about Dike further than that he was a Connecticut Yankee, who had served on the military staffs of General Joseph Warren, of Bunker Hill fame, and of George Washington. Major Van Campen, who had run the gauntlet in another part of the future county, in 1782, and thereby (supposedly) had been admitted to the Senecas, was the second settler, in 1796. There were but few white men who located in the county until after the turn of the century and the fine venture of Captain Philip Church, so that Allegany was meagerly inhabited when the United States became involved in a second war with England. A census of 1810 credits the county with a population of 1,942.

War of 1812—It may be that the War of 1812 was inevitable and necessary, but it was unpopular with the people at large, and at its end not one of the points over which the United States entered this war was settled at the Treaty of Ghent, December 24, 1814. The development of western New York was checked by this prolonged conflict, many pioneers leaving the region. Those who did remain, and most did in Allegany, which was throughout removed more than a hundred miles from any contact between the British and American forces, profited, for agricultural and lumber products rose to high prices. However, there were several very bad growing seasons. As a matter of record, New York, above any other State, was the scene of the land campaigns during the War of 1812, and of naval affairs on the lakes bordering it, which went a long way toward bringing success to the youthful Nation. To the glory of Allegany County, it may be pointed out that although she probably did not have more than five hundred men capable of military service, she furnished two rifle companies which, with two from Steuben County, formed a battalion commanded by Major Asa Gaylord. The major died while on duty, and the battalion was thereafter commanded by Colonel Dobbins.

Militia System—There is little doubt that a number of other citizens served in some military unit during the War of 1812, all of whom had some military training. It may also be pointed out that for the War of 1812 the people of up-State New York were better prepared than for any war in which the United States ever engaged. The reason for both these statements is the old "militia system" then in force. Much good-natured fun has been made of this system and of "general training," a really important feature of pioneer life. Under the ancient law, which was adopted before Allegany had been made a

county, every able-bodied male citizen, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, with a number of exceptions that excluded but few people, had to be registered and report for annual military training. This was conscription of a sort, but was effected from the bottom rather than the top, and managed to a large extent by the people themselves instead of Albany or Washington authorities. The generals, brigade-inspectors and chief of the staff department, except adjutants and commissary generals, were appointed by the State, but the colonels were chosen by the captains and subalterns of the regiment, and the latter were elected by their unit. All non-commissioned officers and privates were obliged to furnish their own equipment and uniforms, and perform military duties for fifteen years, then forming a reserve callable in cases of insurrection or foreign invasion.

The commanding officers of each company were responsible for the enrollment of all eligible men within their district, and for seeing that such men acquired equipment within six months. Those failing to appear at the appointed annual "training" in September or October, were tried under martial law and fined. If said fine was not paid promptly, a term in the county jail was imposed. The yearly meetings were only for a day or two; the drilling was simple and seldom under skilled oversight; and the whole affair was social to an almost ludicrous extent; but if one thinks that the militia system was not seriously carried out, or lacked in value, a further study is suggested. It may be that there was a preponderance of officers after the South American "revolution" pattern, but the very numbers of these indicate how many privates there must have been. County clerks kept record of officers, from 1807 to about 1830, and it is surprising to find that twenty-three militia officers were sworn in by Allegany in 1807 (lieutenant-colonels to ensigns), some thirty odd in 1816, more than forty-five in 1820, and above sixty in 1822. In 1830 an Act was passed permitting the organization of independent companies, and five years later there were about two thousand in such companies in the county.

Within a few years thereafter the militia and general training passed its height, and by 1840 it was fast dropping out of public life. The State had failed to contribute its fair share to this phase of "preparedness." All was peace and few imagined any cause that would entangle our country in war. Not many years prior to the conflict between the North and South, there was an attempt at a revival of the State militia. An Act was passed requiring able-bodied men to perform military service for a certain number of days annually, or be fined. Practically no attention was paid to the law.

Since only the serious side of what the writer considers a significant phase of Allegany County military annals has thus far been outlined, the amusing aspect of "general training" must be given space and herewith is presented a description that is authentic because written by one who as a boy witnessed the things of which he wrote:

Although the companies exhibited the elite of our regimental splendors, glittering with tinsel and flaunting with feathers, a more



(Courtesy of Mrs. Frank Schen, Belmont)

BOLIVAR VIEW IN THE 1880s

heterogeneous and unsoldierly parade could hardly be imagined. There were the elect from the mountains, who sometimes marched to the rendezvous barefooted, carrying their boots and soldier clothes in a bundle; the ambitious cobblers, tailors and plowboys from crossroad hamlets and remote rural districts, short, tall, fat, skinny, bow-legged, sheep-shanked, cock-eyed, hump-shouldered and sway-backed, equipped by art as economically, awkwardly and variously, as they were endowed by nature; uniformed in contempt of all uniformity, armed with old

flint-lock muskets, horseman's carbines, long squirrel rifles, double-barreled shotguns and bell-muzzled blunderbusses, with side arms of as many different patterns, to the slim-basket-hilted rapier which had probably graced the thigh of some of our French allies in the Revolution.

The officers of the volunteer companies, on the other hand, were generally selected for their handsome appearance and martial bearing, and shone with a certain elegance of equipment, each in the uniform pertaining to his company. Then there was always a sprinkling of veterans of 1812, recognizable by a certain martinet precision in their deportment, and a shadow of contempt for their crude comrades, but quick to resent any extraneous comment derogatory to the service.

A city dandy who undertook to ridicule the old-fashioned way in which some officers carried their swords, was silenced by the snappish reply, "Young man, I've seen the best troops of Great Britain beaten by men who carried their swords that way."

This harlequinade of equipment, costume and character, was duly paraded twice a day, marched through the streets and put through on the green common adjoining the village, much to the satisfaction of all emancipated school boys, ragamuffins, idlers, tavern-keepers, cake and beer vendors.

Civil War—From several points of view the Civil War holds the highest place in Allegany County military annals. The war continued over a longer period, more of the county's citizens took part in battles, losses were larger and internal affairs more profoundly affected. Few went from this section to the War with Mexico; few ever got beyond the unsanitary training camps in the United States during the Spanish-American War; and even the World War, of more recent memory, took fewer boys overseas than the numbers who fought in the South between 1861 and 1865. Books have been written of this internecine disaster; a Beers' publication of 1879 gives an immense amount of space to records of the units from Allegany County which took part in the war, and still remains the most complete single authority on the subject. The causes of the Civil War are too well known to require discussion; enough that Allegany, like hundreds of other sections, was profoundly affected and, both behind and in the battle lines, did its very best to bring the war to a successful conclusion.

Since the demise of the military system had left the county without trained soldiers, all communities set about repairing the damage. Angelica, Scio and Cuba responded earliest to the emergency and sent three companies into the ranks of the Union Army, and many youths enlisted in various out-of-the-county units. Hornell was then the nearest and outstanding recruiting station. Company I, Excelsior Brigade

under General Sickles, 27th Regiment, New York State Volunteer Infantry, is usually awarded first honors. The same credit is claimed for Company B, recruited by Captain M. M. Loyden, at Cuba, which joined the 23d Regiment at Elmira.

The time element is relatively inconsequential, for Allegany people as a whole were in accord in supporting the Federal government, and its contributions to the armed ranks were ready as quickly as they could be accepted. In briefest outline the military units having soldiers from the county were as follows:

The 23d Regiment, of previous mention, which fought at Rappahannock Station, Sulphur Springs, Gainesville, Manassas Plains, Second Bull Run, Chantilly, South Mountain, Antietam, and Fredericksburg. The regiment was organized May 16, 1861.

The 27th Regiment, organized at Elmira, May 21, 1864, admitted a company of seventy-five men from the county, under Captain Curtis C. Gardiner, and achieved a noteworthy record.

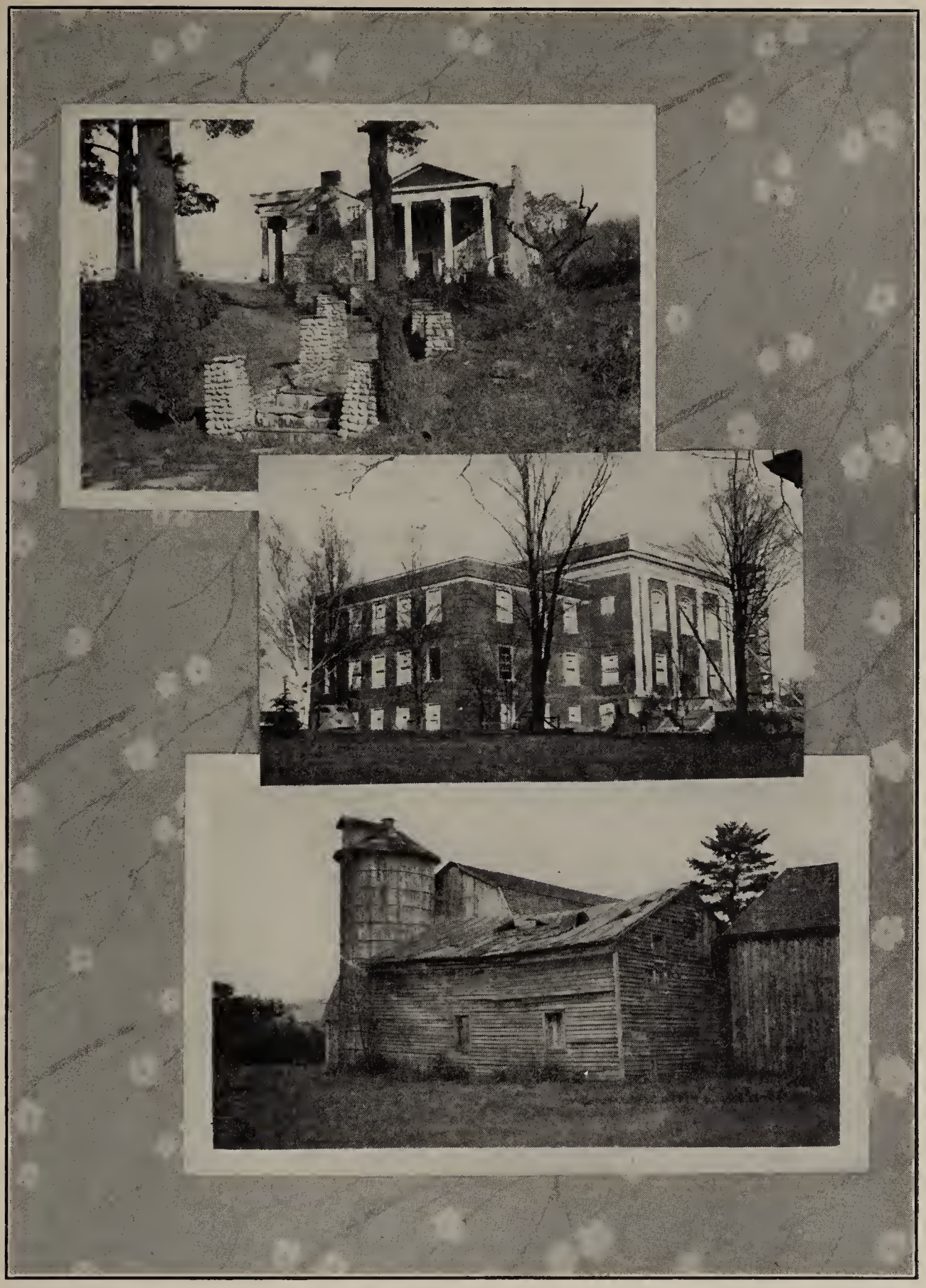
The 64th Regiment, organized in Cattaraugus County, which contained Company D, from Allegany, under Captain Philip Lake, and Company G, under Captain J. S. Pittinger. Each consisted of eighty-three men originally.

The 85th Regiment was made up chiefly of Allegany County men, the remainder coming from Ontario, Seneca and Cattaraugus counties. Of the memorable battles of the 85th were those at Fair Oaks, Mechanicsville, Gaines' Mills, Malvern Hall, Goldsborough and Plymouth.

The 93d Regiment, of which Company E came from Amity, Belfast, Caneadea, Scio, Independence and Wellsville, the recruiting being in charge of A. J. McNutt, of Belmont, in September, 1861.

The 130th Regiment, better known as the 1st New York Dragoons, of noteworthy record, was enlisted chiefly in Allegany. All of Companies C, D, F, G and I, and parts of Companies A, D and K, came from the county.

The 136th Regiment, recruited in Allegany and Livingston counties, had more than a hundred officers and privates from the first named section. This infantry regiment fought Pickett at Gettysburg on Cemetery Hill; battled among the clouds of Lookout Mountain above Chattanooga; joined Sherman on the "March to the Sea"; turned the siege of Burnside at Knoxville. Its battle flag, now to be seen in the capitol at Albany, was thrice recaptured from the Rebels at the battle of Peach Tree Creek.



(Courtesy of Roy A. Peck, Belmont)

TOP: HENRY RESIDENCE NEAR BELMONT, MORE THAN 100 YEARS OLD. CENTER: ALLEGANY COUNTY COURTHOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, NEARLY FINISHED IN 1938. BOTTOM: UNDERGROUND RAILROAD STATION ON SORTORE FARM NEAR BELMONT, RAZED RECENTLY

The 189th and 194th Regiments contained two companies each of Allegany soldiers, and there were known representatives from the county in the 78th, 81st, 154th, 160th, 161st, 179th and 184th Regiments of New York Volunteer Infantry. The 1st Veteran Cavalry, 5th Cavalry, 12th Cavalry units from New York, the 16th Pennsylvania Cavalry, 5th and 13th New York Artillery, 67th Pennsylvania Infantry, and the 13th Wisconsin Rifles, all included a number of Allegany men. Near the end of the war quite a few enlisted in the navy.

The Union was saved and the Nation no longer tried to survive half free and half slave. The cost had been high, not alone in the soldier dead, maimed and in broken health, but in material things and the effect upon those who carried the burdens behind the lines, and the generation born during those bitter years. As the people of that day looked to the future and there was a strange unanimity of purpose—"Let us forget." Seldom has the good, sound common sense of the folk of Allegany been more manifest than in its refusal to expend large sums for military memorials; in its delay in forming Grand Army of the Republic organizations; and mild interest displayed toward National Guard organizations. No one, however, can impugn its patriotism or point to any lack of enthusiastic support of our country's war ventures, whether the successful crusades to "rescue bleeding Cuba," or to "Make Democracy Safe."

The World War—In 1916, the United States elected Woodrow Wilson to the Presidency on the slogan "He kept us out of war"—the war in question being the one which had been raging abroad since August 3, 1914, an European conflict into which our Nation did not intend to be drawn. About a month after his inauguration, a people united as never before, cheered to high heaven the pronouncement of April 6, 1917, that war had been declared on Germany. While not a particularly volatile people, Americans are capable of quick and vigorous changes of opinion and able, beyond all expectation in foreign countries, to carry on what they begin.

As is characteristic of every war that the United States has waged, "unpreparedness" was the keynote of the initial history of the World War. The Colonies rebelled against England while still at odds with each other, and never were able to raise large armies or manufacture sufficient munitions. The War of 1812 was entered into only after an embargo had about ruined shipyards and the merchant marine. Foreign commerce had been so limited for several years that

there were few military supplies on this side of the ocean and few plants established to make them. Without the very imperfect "militia system" of the time, there could not have been put into the field enough equipped soldiers to prevent the over-running of New York and other states. We plunged merrily into a war with Mexico, not many years later, and won mainly because the enemy was more unready to fight than ourselves. The same is true of the Spanish-American conflict, in which our troops suffered losses in the home camps many times larger than those sustained in all battles. For nearly three years prior to 1917 we witnessed wholesale murder abroad, the liberties of peoples trampled upon, our flag disregarded and our own folk slain on the high seas, yet the United States went placidly on its comfortable and secure way, without any army worthy of mention, a National Guard steadily disintegrating, meager stocks of arms or armament—these were being sent abroad—and little in the way of a mercantile marine, but a strong navy. The boast of Germany and the belief of our future allies were that the war would be over before we could get our military forces, industries and resources prepared to do anything decisive. One thing, however, had been forgotten by other countries—a lesson of the Civil War when, under the pressure of active warfare, both the North and the South had welded together armies that had astonished foreign observers.

America did not want to enter the World War, but once it was decided that she would, there was a surge of an united people that swept all obstacles from her path. War was declared on April 6, 1917. Before the end of May three measures had been adopted which settled right then the ultimate fate of Germany: On April 24, President Woodrow Wilson signed the seven billion dollar War Bond Bill; the largest Army and Navy Bill in the history of nations was passed, nearly four billions; and third, on May 18, the President signed the Selective Service Act, calling all men between the ages of twenty-one and thirty. There were registered under this Act, more than nine and a half million citizens. Under a subsequent law, extending into ages from eighteen to forty-five, over twenty-six million out of the fifty-four million males in the United States were either registered or in the service. All this was carried out without serious objection from those concerned. An army of three million was raised from this great mass of recruits; nearly another million came from the regular army of five hundred and twenty-seven thousand and the National Guard, which had been increased to three hundred and eighty-two thousand.

Industries were expanded on a like large scale. To care for the military forces the country was divided into training areas and great camps, and cantonments of standardized buildings were established. Treating the training of an army as a large scale industrial problem, by autumn the organization of an army of four million was well under way. For this army, industry began to turn out the enormous stream of supplies to clothe and feed and equip it. Meanwhile, shipping was found, and methods of protecting it against the submarine were developed, that enabled the country to ship millions of tons of raw and food materials to our allies across the water.

The mobilization of the Nation's resources of food and fuel, shipping and land transportation, of finance and trade, was directed by a series of "Boards" made up of leaders in their respective spheres. The financial problem was taken directly to the people, and the bulk of the great sums expended was derived from the United States Bonds purchased by popular subscription. Each locality had its allotment, and was thus brought into intimate connection with the whole money effort. The same direct appeal was the foundation of the successful results in conscription, food and fuel savings, and the thousand and one activities of that period. America, in the beginning, may have been as helpless as the foreign nations believed it to be, there were many mistakes made and much effort wasted, but the spirit was there, the unity that was unsuspected, and the Nation performed miracles.

The United States made ready on the theory "that modern warfare demands all the efforts of all the people." So far as civilian share in the preparations and support, it was tremendously valuable and involved an unprecedented number of citizens. Everyone helped, even the children. It was estimated that it required four at home to provide for each man in army and navy services. All activities were based upon the Federal, State, county and town governments, the town being the ultimate and a vital unit. World War preparations and work fell naturally into two phases—military and civilian.

Civilian Activities—There has been no attempt made to compile a comprehensive history of Allegany County's civilian activities in "backing up the boys over there," nor is it probable that such a history will ever be written. To even trace the ramifications of organized endeavors would be a task entailing too immense an amount of research at this late date. The total data would fill books. The National, State, County, Town and Community "Councils of Defense," by whatever name called, provided as complete a super-organization for war as the

human mind could conceive. It functioned mainly as "committees," in the towns and villages of Allegany, with Bolivar, Wellsville and Andover being centers in the south; Cuba, Angelica, Belmont, and Alfred in the middle section of the county; and Rushford, Fillmore and Canaseraga in the north, all somewhat more separated then than now, when good roads and an increased use of the automobile make closer contacts easier and better. The naming above of certain towns must not be taken to imply that any other town failed to carry on well its part in the multifarious activities of the time. Those named were chosen simply because they were situated in separated localities in Allegany.

The county press enlisted and played their rôles of "moulders of thought and directors of action." There were "Four-minute Men" who became quick-fire educators of public opinion. "Loyalty" and all kinds of "weeks" and "days" received attention, and many groups were formed of an inspirational and educative character. Conservation work included every practical (and some impractical) method of increasing and saving supplies of all sorts. The fuel and food administrations, however unpopular, met with little opposition to the requirements of heatless, meatless, and other kinds of days and periods. The quotas of the successive Liberty Loans were subscribed, although the Victory Loan proved almost the last straw that broke the camel's back. The per capita purchase of War Savings securities by Allegany citizens was well above the average for the country as a whole. Red Cross subscriptions were unusually large, as were contributions to the various humanitarian agencies like the Young Men's Christian Association and similar organizations—racial, denominational and general. The women of the county were exceptionally active and deserving of the highest tribute that can be paid. During all this time when civilians were doing their utmost, there was a constant stream of youth flowing into the military and naval forces and then on to foreign shores. And as the months passed came the increasingly long list of the dead and disabled.

Military Records—If the civilian activities of Allegany are difficult of compilation, so also are the military records of individuals, or units, from the county. It was the policy of the military authorities of our country, shortly after entering into the World War, to assign soldiers coming from one section to various regiments and branches of army and naval service. Why this was done by the powers that controlled is a matter of conjecture, the most liberal-minded guess

being that it was desired that no part of a State, or its political divisions, should sustain any undue proportional share of the losses that were inevitable. At any rate, conditions were arbitrarily changed from those holding in the Civil War, when squads, companies and even regiments were recruited in single towns or counties and went forth upon the great adventure in groups of men who had been associated fraternally since school days and manhood.

At first it was thought that National Guard troops would be the last to be mustered into the United States Army, and many members dropped out. Then Dame Rumor suggested that this organization was to be the first inducted into service, and a flood of new enlistments changed the personnel of the Guard by the time it was taken over by the government. When the Selective Service Law went into operation, there was little regard for keeping together men from the same locality or even State. Later replacements in regiments were usually made from sections that had few representatives already in the unit. It is well to keep these facts in mind when one writes that Allegany recruits were represented in the 27th and 42d Divisions, the 74th, 77th, 78th and 81st Divisions, for while this is true, it is equally true that the largest single group of those numbered among the casualties from Allegany County is credited to "non-divisional" groups.

The 27th and the 42d were both National Guard divisions, and drew comparatively few from Allegany. The 27th, trained for the most part in the South, and went overseas in May, 1918. After being located in the Belgian sector, it was brigaded with the British on the Hindenburg Line, where after prolonged and heavy fighting, it pierced that famous barrier. Its casualties, exceeding ten thousand, indicates both the length and the ferocity of its operations.

The 42d, or Rainbow Division, contained National Guard units from nearly thirty states, hence its name. It was the fourth American division to arrive in France; it participated in such major battles as those of the Oise-Aisne, St. Mihiel Salient and the Meuse-Argonne, suffering losses larger than any but the first three regular army divisions.

The 77th Division was very much a New York State unit and, probably more than any other division, contained men from Allegany County. It was the first New York division to be sent abroad (May, 1918). In France it was in active contact with the enemy for 113 days, and won the repute of gaining more ground than any other division—forty-five miles—the average of combat American units being seventeen.

The 78th served forty-five days as a combat division, a short but especially effective service.

The 81st (Wild Cat) Division, had some Allegany men in its Field Signal Battalion of five hundred, but was more of a Southern unit as a whole. The 81st was in command of Major-General Charles J. Bailey, West Pointer, who was the highest ranking officer from southwestern New York in the World War. General Bailey's chapters in this work on "National Wars" and "Military Annals" are the best so far written on the subject.

The announcement of the Armistice was celebrated deliriously in all parts of Allegany, as it was everywhere in the United States and Europe, and glorious plans were made for the reception of "our boys" as they came home. But the machinery of war grinds slowly, and it was months before the overseas veterans arrived, some of them so unpublicized that only relatives and personal friends greeted them. Soberly the people took account of a hectic period. The none too large population of the county had been thinking for more than a year and a half in terms of millions of dollars; of personal and public sacrifices beyond all previous conception, of a unity in coöperation never before achieved, of the hundreds of its youth who had gone to war and might never again regain their health and strength, and especially of forty-nine who had given their lives for their country. The military record of the county is one of which it can be justly proud; its civilian activities were equally noteworthy. It holds in honor the deeds of valor performed by its citizens, and above all pays homage to its heroic dead.

CHAPTER LVIII

History of Wellsville

By E. Willard Barnes

The journalist, who attempts the writing of history, soon learns that the painting of the world's daily picture in words is not the same task as painting yesterday's picture for preservation by posterity. Although, in one sense of the word, the fourth estate preserves history, it is not the living record which is desired by those who carve the facts of time on paper that generations which follow may understand events, their causes and their effects.

The journalist, in his quickly written bit of history each day, must bring the full details of the event to his readers. His first paragraph must tell the salient facts of his whole story and the chronological order of the scenes are given but scant consideration. He seeks to tell his story, quickly and entertainingly for his busy readers. In his style man dies first, then becomes a business leader, churchman or prize fighter and at about the middle of story brief mention is made of his birth, his marriage, his survivors and the disposition of the late lamented receives brief but respectful mention in the final sentence.

In history, however, the chronological order of events must be observed—the man is born; he "chops down the cherry tree"; becomes a surveyor; and finally the Father of His Country. Those who read the historian's story will appreciate that order of events, because they will fall into one of two classes—those who read history for pleasure and those who read history for personal knowledge.

With these factors in mind, it is the purpose of this writer to attempt to bring forth an uncolored and factual picture of the town and village of Wellsville. Limitations of space prevent this story from being more than broad sweeping strokes of the brush which paints in words a truly important and interesting chronicle. Events, their causes and their effects, will be sketched briefly and bring up to



WELLSVILLE *(Courtesy of Mrs. Mame E. Ward,*

Taken after the rebuilding program following the 1867 fire was well under way. Enlarged from a small photograph by W. H. Hall (now in possession of Mrs. M. E. Ward). To get right perspective, view picture from lower left corner looking toward upper right. The Baptist Church was dedicated in the summer of 1868. The school building (top building second from extreme right) was built in 1853 and was burned in 1876. Three other buildings have since been burned on this site now occupied by the new high school. Top building extreme left, Temple Theatre; immediately to the right of the white splotch backed by two black trees, Farnum Mill; second building left of church, Masonic Temple; building to right of church, school. Site of this church and school now occupied by David A. Howe Public Library; next building to right (with chimney), Coat's furniture factory. They had a store in front. To the right of the center, building with three chimneys in right wall, now C. E. Davie & Son's store, and the Princess shop; next building to right showing light end, now Covill's jewelry store; directly below this, on river bank, Fasset's mill; light building extreme right top, Roman Catholic Church; building to its left, where high school now stands.

date, if possible, the excellent works of those who have done this task before. For history until the turn of the present century, this writer has relied almost entirely on the work of others and to them expresses appreciation and gratitude.

It is interesting to note that the very opening event in the history of Wellsville has no apparent factual cause. Nathaniel Dyke is known to have been the first settler and the effect of his decision to stop in this section is found today in the thriving town and village of Wellsville. Records, however, are not clear as to the cause which sent this Yale graduate, and honored member of the families of General George Washington and General Joseph Warren to settle in this wilderness country in the spring of 1795. In all probability it was the urge to find wider frontiers away from the places he had always known.

The township of Wellsville was originally a part of the townships of Scio, Andover and Willing and was formed on November 22, 1855. Here it must be pointed out that the village of Wellsville is less than three years younger than its parent township and was incorporated by the State of New York on March 20, 1858. An election to approve the incorporation was held in the public house of J. C. Stannard on November 26, 1857, and the people voted 142 to 8 in favor of the plan. These facts are emphasized here that the reader may know that all future references to Wellsville in this history will refer to the village unless otherwise specified.

This history, however, could not be complete without the inclusion of those important first events, all of which, of course, occurred in the pioneer settlement prior to the formation of either township or village. It is recorded that Rachael Dyke, born in 1807, was the first child. The first death was that of Thomas Brink, also in 1807. The first log house was erected by Nathaniel Dyke in 1795 and the first school was taught by Ithamer Brookings in 1814 on what is now the east line of the township. The first frame house was erected by Samuel Palmer on the lot in front of the former A. N. Cole residence.

Other settlers moved into the new country shortly after the beginning of the nineteenth century and, during the following seventy-five years, the population increased rapidly until 1875, when there were 4,247 residents in the township. In 1830 Charles Rowley settled on a farm just northwest of the village of Wellsville on the River Road. In 1842 Jeremiah Sheehan purchased a farm east of the village on Lot 38. William Bellamy, a native of Scio, located on a farm in 1849 and in 1851 there was quite an increase in the population with

James Tracey, a native of Ireland, and Henry Brander and Christopher Grastorf, natives of Germany, locating on farms. Others who arrived during this early period included Jacob Rauber, a native of Württemberg; William H. Grastorf and C. C. Horn, both natives of Hanover, Germany.

The turn of the century also saw the establishment of the first industries and by their establishment the opening of one of two epochs into which the history of Wellsville may be divided roughly. These two epochs are termed in this work the Period of Lumber and the Period of Oil.

The first sawmill was established by Nathaniel Dyke in 1803 on Dyke's Creek and it was also Dyke who built the first gristmill. The lumber interests developed rapidly and with the increasing demands larger mills were constructed. The Hakes & Williams mill, located on Dyke's Creek, cut three million feet of lumber annually. Mead's Steam Sawmill, located about three miles east of the village, had an annual capacity of about 400,000 feet annually. Charles Duke & Company's sawmills were capable of cutting a million and a half feet of lumber each year in addition to eight hundred thousand lath and half a million shingles.

In 1874 the first cheese factory was established by Hakes, Hills & Company and had a capacity of handling the milk from six hundred cows. In that same year there were 957 cows in the township and the milk from 221 of these was taken to the factory and made into cheese. There were 72,621 pounds of butter made by families that same year.

Wellsville, town and village alike, has never been classed in the category of mushroom growth. The population of both has advanced slowly but steadily in time with the progress of the community. In 1860 the population of the township had reached 2,432. In 1865 the population was 3,070; in 1870 it had reached 3,781, and in 1875 the total was 4,247. The sixty-five years which have passed have seen this steady growth continue until 1939 finds an estimated population of 8,200. In 1900 the population of the township had reached 4,981; 5,663 in 1910; 6,171 in 1920; and 6,909 in 1930.

The first supervisor of the township was J. Milton Mott and the first town clerk was Jonathan Wyatt.

Today the township can hardly be separated from the village either geographically or in economic interests. The small area lying outside the village is composed of industrial properties, beautiful residential sections such as Riverside to the north, Morningside to the

west, Proctor District to the east, and The Gypsy Lane section to the south. Beyond these areas lie well kept farms and some small areas of oil property. A network of good State, county and town roads makes the village proper easily available to these residents.

The residents of this area outside the village are served by electricity, gas, telephone and, in the case of Riverside, a water system was installed many years ago. It enjoys the services of the organized and efficient Wellsville Volunteer Fire Department and its children have access to free and modern intermediate and high schools. The year 1939 has seen the beginning of the first hard surfaced roads under the direction of township officials and it is predicted that the time is not



(Courtesy of the Wellsville Daily Reporter)

WELLSVILLE VIEW

far distant when the dirt roads, which present a problem to modern motor cars in the fall and spring, will be a thing of the past.

The Sinclair Refining Company owns valuable property outside the village boundaries as does the Moore Steam Turbine Company, now a part of the Worthington Pump & Machinery Corporation.

Assessed valuations have been boosted by the development of the minor oil pools in the Fulmer Valley, Fords Brook and Madison Hill areas and the construction of high pressure gas lines to carry fuel from nearby townships and northern Pennsylvania into Wellsville and other villages and cities in this part of the State.

Morningside Park, Proctor Terrace, and to a lesser degree Madison Hill, are outstanding in the phase of residential real estate devel-

opment outside the boundaries of the village. These sections, unlike Riverside, contain the homes of a large number of working people and have been developed on a lower scale of investment. As each has sprung up it has replaced to a certain degree the number of strictly farm acres and appears to be developing a new social and political group unknown to the Wellsville of a quarter of a century ago. These citizens, as small land owners, are interested in the same conveniences and services now enjoyed by their neighbors within the village limits. As a result of this condition, the duties and problems of the township government has assumed, during the past few years, an aspect similar to the problems of the village government.

New governmental problems and requests have also arisen as the result of the development of the huge industrial interests outside the village. The strictly rural residents have therefor adopted a policy of throwing their lot in with their new residential and industrial neighbors, thus taking the town further out of the agrarian sphere in which it was born many years ago. This situation was particularly evident in the fall of 1938, when agitation was started for the formation of a fire protection district in the area outside the village. In the promotion of this plan, two factions appeared in the picture. On the one hand were the small property owners who had formerly lived in the village and felt the loss of fire protection, while on the other hand the old resident group of farmers, in many cases, appeared skeptical. They argued that the cost of the plan would not justify its promised benefits. The plan was finally adopted and is in effect today. After only a year's trial, it is impossible to give a true estimate of its value due to the lack of experience upon which to predicate costs and benefits. The future holds the ultimate answer to the question which still waxes rather hotly at times.

In the same vein of changing conditions, there appeared in 1939 a strong movement for better roads outside the village. This movement has received concerted support from residents in all of the outlying residential districts. The first major step was taken this year by the county government as construction of a wide hard-top road in the vicinity of the Sinclair Refining Company plant was started. The road starts at the south end of Brooklyn Avenue and connects with the Gypsy Lane Road on the west side of the Genesee River. Gypsy Lane Road, constructed in 1933, is the only hard-topped road at the present time maintained by the township. Indications are today that the demand for such improvements and additional services will increase

in the years to come with an ever-narrowing gulf between the township outside the village and the village proper.

Politically, there is also a growing problem which has been emphasized during 1939 by some agitation for greater representation on the town board by residents of the township outside the village. The present town board is composed of Supervisor Thomas C. Martin and Peace Justices Daniel Witter, George Hallock and Bayard Tullar, all residents of the village. Peace Justice John Phillips, the fourth member of the board, is the only member residing in the township outside the village. Town Clerk Laurence Pflager and Tax Collector Ruth Browning are also residents of the village proper, with Highway Superintendent Albert Heers the only other major town official residing outside the village of Wellsville.

Other town officials include: Assessors Griffith B. Pritchard, Paul G. Frederick and J. Ben Martin; Dog Warden Warren Ives and Town Attorney Francis B. O'Connor. Police Chief Timothy J. Shine and Officers Aubrey Crowner, Eric Roeske, Leon Schultz and Jack Doyle are town constables. Richard Riggs is deputy sheriff representing the township of Wellsville. The town government owns several large pieces of road-building and snow removal machinery, which are housed in a town-owned barn located on the west end of West Dyke Street, near the border of Woodlawn Cemetery.

The village of Wellsville, in 1939, is the life and soul of the township. As has been said before, its growth has been slow but steady, with no period of major setback. There have been times when its industrial march has appeared to falter somewhat, but always its backbone—the oil industry—has served as a steadying influence and has prevented any great recession.

John S. Minard, Esq., Allegany County historian, compiled, in 1895, a very complete history of the township and village up to that period. The Minard work, of which many complete copies are in existence, covers the biographies of the early pioneers.

Space does not permit this writer to reprint any great amount of that record and these early events are therefor only lightly touched upon in the hope that those interested in the pioneer history of both village and township will take the time to turn to Mr. Minard's very able work. There the reader can learn for himself the romantic, although at no time dramatic, events which lead up to the formation and early growth of the village which today holds title to "The Metropolis of Allegany County."

The 1939 historian and the 1939 residents of Wellsville must pay sincere respect and homage to those pioneers who built slowly but well and carefully laid the foundations for the Wellsville of today. It is safe to assume that in those early days, as is the case today, leaders in the village came in for their share of criticism for not forcing the development of the village through active campaigns and gambles on the unknown futures of industries seeking to locate here. This policy, however, appears to have been the safe policy and with the exception of one period, which saw several industries fail or move out of Wellsville, the community has experienced no great recession or depression.

Even the depression begun in 1929, which still appears to exist in many parts of the Nation, failed to strike serious blows in Wellsville. Merchants and industries alike experienced problems of reduced income, greater taxes, increasing costs and other effects of the New Deal. But these factors, when compared with losses experienced in other sections, appear almost trivial.

The late 1920s, as may be seen in a closer study of the chapter on industry, did see a real industrial recession here. During this period the Victor Aluminum Company and the Wellsville Upholstering Company went out of business. The Pure Carbon Company was absorbed by a larger firm in the same business and the Elliott Turbine Company was moved out of Wellsville, despite efforts of the Wellsville Chamber of Commerce. The Elliott plant was eventually torn down, but the Victor Company property today houses the John R. Rice Company, one of the community's largest distributors of motor cars.

The site of the Elliott Company today houses two important business places—the new and modern offices of Godfrey L. Cabot, Inc., and a large, modern warehouse and office constructed and owned by the Hopkins Lumber & Coal Company. A portion of the Wellsville Upholstering Company plant remains idle, although one large building was destroyed by fire a few years ago.

In addition, East Dyke Street has been extended through this area to Island Park and it appears that the not too distant future will see this section developed for residences or new industrial ventures.

However, as these industries were going out of existence and a dark cloud appeared over the future of the village, the Sinclair Refining Company came into the picture with an expansion program costing several millions of dollars and the Moore Steam Turbine Company and the Air Preheater Corporation started new growth. Today the Moore is a part of the Worthington Pump & Machinery Corporation and a large expansion program is underway, while the Airpre-

heater Company has already expanded its real estate to some extent and appears at the present time to be growing slowly but surely.

In addition to the expansion of these three industries the natural gas boom has resulted in the growth of a new business with Godfrey L. Cabot, Inc., the Belmont Quadrangle Drilling Corporation and the



(Courtesy of the Wellsville Daily Reporter)

WELLSVILLE ACADEMY

Otis Eastern Service, Inc., all having permanent offices and warehouses in the community.

Soon after the turn of the century there came the almost total extinction of the lumber and tannery business, but by this time the oil industry had come into its own so that the transition did not bring a

severe shock, or even threaten to leave Wellsville in the category of a ghost town. The predicted mushroom growth of Wellsville during the oil boom period was a great disappointment to the residents of that day, but in the light of later events, it appears that destiny was looking far into the future of Wellsville. Today many of the boom towns of that period are mere skeletons of their once gilded grandeur.

Current history is written and often is aided in its formation by the press of the Nation and the history of Wellsville would not be complete without recording the origin and activities of Wellsville's present newspapers. The "Allegany County Democrat" was founded here in 1867 as an exponent of Democracy and published by Myron E. Eddy and Charles F. White. In December, 1872, Mr. Eddy retired from active business life and Mr. White continued as publisher until 1874, when he sold the business to W. W. Nichols. On June 11, 1882, A. E. Cowles purchased a half interest in the paper and the firm of Nichols & Cowles appeared as the publishers until February 2, 1887, when Mr. Cowles purchased the entire business and continued to publish the "Democrat" until March, 1925, when Carl N. Marshall became its owner and publisher.

Mr. Marshall continues in this capacity today and at the same time holds the office of Wellsville's postmaster. He is the first Democrat to hold this position in many years. He is a leader in his party's councils and has served the Federal government in other official positions since the advent of the New Deal administration. The "Democrat" is published weekly on Thursdays. It is printed now in tabloid form.

The "Wellsville Daily Reporter," Allegany County's only daily newspaper, was established on November 1, 1880, by Enos W. Barnes, grandfather of the present editor and manager, E. Willard Barnes, who together with his mother, Mrs. Lillian Lee Barnes, are its present publishers. The paper is now published regularly in six and eight-page editions with special editions often running into ten, twelve and even more pages at rush periods of the year. It is serviced by the Associated Press with State, national and world news and pictures and employs a force of eighteen people in its editorial, business and mechanical departments. Reporter correspondents are located in practically every important Allegany County community and the paper plays an important rôle in Republican party affairs of the county, town and village as well as taking an active interest in the civic affairs of Wellsville and nearby Allegany County communities.

The "Allegany County Reporter" was published as a weekly and semi-weekly jointly with the "Daily Reporter" until 1930, when it was discontinued and merged with the daily. Its birth dates back to 1874, when the "Angelica Reporter" was moved from Belmont to Wellsville to be united with the "Wellsville Times" as the "Allegany County Reporter." It was purchased by Enos W. Barnes in 1876, four years previous to the founding of the "Daily Reporter."

Both the daily and weekly "Reporter" were carried on by Mr. Barnes until his death in 1888, following which for many years the papers were published by Mrs. Barnes and her sons, E. Willard Barnes and Charles M. Barnes. Following the death of Mrs. Barnes the papers were carried on by the Barnes brothers until the death of E. Willard Barnes in 1925. Ownership and management of the papers passed to the third generation of the Barnes family in 1929, when the present publishers of the paper purchased the interests of Charles M. Barnes.

Wellsville today boasts of one of the finest volunteer fire departments in New York State. Its fire loss record is looked upon with envy by many paid departments and its place in the affairs of the community has been made secure time and again by the efficient work of its five member companies. Like all communities, Wellsville's earliest means of fire protection was found in the bucket brigade, which later was replaced by the hand-drawn fire engines. The small engine, called "Union," was the first piece of fire fighting equipment in the village and saw duty during the fifties.

It was not until fire had swept Main Street from end to end on three different occasions and the entire business district had been rebuilt as many times, that the first fire department was organized. Harvey Alger was elected chief engineer at the organization meeting in June, 1874. Of the four companies then in existence not one remains today under the original name or plan of organization. The Genesee Steamer Company became the Genesee Hose Company when the city water works were installed. The company had been organized June 4, 1874, and exists today under the latter name. Its members own a modern piece of fire apparatus which is stored in the Old City Hall, where the Genesees also have their clubrooms. The James Macken Hose Company was also organized in June, 1874, and after several years of hard work was disbanded. The Howard Hose Company, also formed in 1874, exists today as the Grant Duke Hose Company and is the owner of a new truck purchased in 1938. The company's truck



(Courtesy of George F. Jammer, Superintendent of Schools—Photo by Amory W. Stewart)

WELLSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

and clubrooms are housed in a building on the corner of Stevens and West Pearl streets. The Emerald Hook & Ladder Company was organized June 11, 1878, as a hose company, but was reorganized April 9, 1879, under the present name. The Emeralds this year purchased a new piece of apparatus. Their clubrooms are also located in the Old City Hall. The McEwen Hose Company was organized June 11, 1878, as the Baldwin Hose Company. Later the name was changed to McEwen and the organization today is one of the active units of the department. Headquarters for the McEwens are also located in the Old City Hall.

The last company to be formed was the Dyke Street Hose Company. This unit was organized in 1881 and is housed in its own firehouse located in East Dyke Street. The company last year purchased a new fire truck and today holds its place with the other four units. In 1937 the ladies entered into the fire fighting picture through the organization of auxiliaries in connection with the McEwen Hose Company and the Genesee Hose Company. The ladies' units participate in parades and during the Sinclair Refining Company fire of July, 1938, they saw active service furnishing sandwiches and hot coffee for the weary fire fighters.

Wellsville of 1939 is probably outstanding in New York State for the large number of various services performed as a part of the municipal government and owned by the people of the village of Wellsville. These services include electricity, water, steam, hospital, sewage and garbage disposal as direct village activities, and the David A. Howe Public Library, which is governed by a board of trustees, whose members are responsible to the village government.

Oldest and most important of these services today is the Wellsville Municipal Water & Light Department serving the entire community with both domestic and industrial supplies of electrical energy and water. The plant was originally chartered on March 26, 1883, and a franchise granted by the village government to W. S. Kuhn. A reservoir was constructed on Niles Hill, and a supply of water secured by use of flowing springs. Lines were built throughout the village, but it soon became evident that the natural pressure was not sufficient. A pump station was erected on West State Street, between the Genesee River and the old mill race, and the water pumped through the lines.

In 1894 substantial improvements were made, a brick structure erected with new machinery and artesian wells drilled. For the next twenty years the project moved along with varying degrees of financial

success. On September 1, 1915, the plant and its equipment became the property of the village of Wellsville. Operated as a municipal venture, it gradually became more efficient and profitable, although in 1916 and 1917 the present reservoir and sand filter were constructed on Reservoir Hill. The reservoir is still in operation, but the sand filter proved a failure and today stands in ruins representing a loss of several thousands of dollars. Severe winters were blamed in part for its failure.

The present system of mechanical filtration was installed in 1921 and, in 1924, a five hundred kilowatt Kerr generator was installed. In 1926 the municipal plant was linked to the Niagara Lockport lines under a stand-by service contract and in 1932 a huge one thousand five hundred kilowatt Moore generator was installed. The present new boiler house was constructed in 1934, the same year steam lines were laid for furnishing heat to the Jones Memorial Hospital and the David A. Howe Public Library. Heat is also furnished to the Wellsville High School and Brooklyn Grade School. Over $25,000 from the plant's profits were used to remodel the old David A. Howe Library Building for use as the present municipal building.

Ernest J. Rowe is superintendent of the plant. He assumed his duties in June, 1920, and under his direction the department has progressed in equipment and earned substantial profits each year. Ray J. Ellison is chairman of the board of commissioners in charge of the plant and its large business. Other commissioners are: James P. Coyle, George B. Harris, Herman S. Marshall, and J. Donald Hauselt. Oliver Sweet is the clerk.

The newest of the municipal services is the sewage disposal plant and the new village sewer system completed early in 1938 at a cost of about $400,000. The disposal plant is located on the Crowner Flats on property purchased by the village along the banks of the Genesee River north of the main Bolivar-Wellsville Highway. It is composed of the main control building, digester tanks, sludge beds and the big glass-inclosed structure where residue materials are dried and made available for use as fertilizer and mulch for village-owned flower beds and lawns. Liquids are chemically treated and dumped into the Genesee River in a harmless form, according to chemists. The plant is in charge of John Slough.

The incinerator plant, located in Scott Avenue, near the village corporation line, was constructed in 1926. It provides for the disposal of all garbage in the village which is collected weekly at a public charge. The service is given to every commercial house and resi-

dence with the cost of collection made a part of the annual tax budget. The plant has operated without incident, except on December 31, 1933, when an accumulation of gases caused an explosion resulting in considerable damage to the interior of the structure.

The Jones Memorial Hospital and the Tullar Maternity Annex are also included in the list of municipal services. The hospital is operated on a business basis with village appropriations made each



THE DAVID A. HOWE MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY, WELLSVILLE

year to cover any deficits in the cost of operation. The hospital also receives an appropriation each year from the Allegany County Board of Supervisors and has available the interest from several thousands of dollars left in bequests by Wellsville residents. The hospital was given to the people of Wellsville in 1920 by the late William F. and Gertrude F. Jones. The Jones residence was then remodeled and opened for business on July 1, 1921. Miss Anna Davids was the first superintendent. She was succeeded in January, 1922, by Miss Florence Spicer, the present superintendent.

Indications are today that a new and larger hospital will be needed in the near future due to the establishment of a mutual system of hospital insurance sponsored by the Hospital Service Corporation of Western New York, composed of hospitals in this section of the State. Alwin W. Schaller is chairman of the Jones Memorial Hospital Board of Managers. Other members of the board are: Myron Palmer, Frank Richart, Mrs. Lillian Harrington, and Miss Bertha Haskins.

The David A. Howe Public Library is another outstanding service given to the people of Wellsville through the generosity of a man who loved the community and its people. The will of David Abiram Howe provided a trust fund, earnings of which were used to construct the new building. Similar earnings will provide for the operation of the library in the years to come. The fund is valued at the present time at more than $1,000,000 and is now under the control of the David A. Howe Public Library Board of Trustees.

The present library, considered one of the most beautiful structures of its kind in New York State, was opened to the public on May 13, 1937, and since that date has been accorded continually increasing support by the people of Wellsville and surrounding communities. J. Farnum Brown is chairman of the library board. Other members of the board are: Mrs. Helen McEwen, Bayard T. Haskins, Mrs. Dorothy Brown Comstock, Mrs. Myrtle Wells Bradley and Maynard D. Church. James P. Coyle is secretary and treasurer. Miss Helena LeFevre is chief librarian and Miss Lois Murdough is children's librarian.

In the fall of 1938 workmen completed remodeling the old library to serve as offices for various village and town officials and the old City Hall is now used for housing three of the fire companies and offices for Police Justice P. L. O'Connor. It is also used as a rehearsal hall for the Wellsville Concert Band and the Wellsville Drum and Bugle Corps, with members of the Wellsville Rifle and Pistol Club having a target range on the third floor.

Plans were in the discussion form in 1939 for tearing down the old City Hall and the construction of a new fire hall and village jail which would include offices for the police department and the police justices.

Offices of the mayor, village clerk, tax collector, water and light department, peace justice, supervisor and police chief are located in the new municipal building on the ground floor. The assessors have office space in the basement where rooms are also set aside for public hearings and meetings of the town board.

One election district is also voted in the municipal building with other districts voting in the Temple Theatre, old City Hall, Duke Hose House, Dyke Street Hose House and the high school building.

Tullar Field, Wellsville's outstanding and modern athletic plant, was purchased by Mrs. Angie C. Tullar on April 15, 1911, and given to the people of the village of Wellsville as a playground and athletic field. During the summer of the same year the grandstand was built



(Courtesy of the Wellsville Daily Reporter—Photo by Stewart Studio)

MAIN REFERENCE ROOM, DAVID A. HOWE MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY, LOOKING INTO ROOM OF MONDAY CLUB

through the efforts of volunteer labor. On August 7, 1936, a complete flood lighting system was installed and since that time night baseball during the summer, and night football in the fall, have kept the field busy.

The year 1939 has also seen Tullar Field used for night boxing matches under the auspices of the Wellsville Athletic Club. Memorial columns and guide posts were constructed at the entrance this sum-

mer and Tullar Field today stands out as one of the finest athletic grounds in western New York. It is used for both professional and amateur athletic events as well as various civic gatherings. For the past two years an ice skating rink has been built each winter through the coöperation of the village board of trustees and members of the Sinclair Athletic Association, an organization composed of employees of the Sinclair Refining Company.

The Wellsville Rod and Gun Club, Inc., is another organization which is active today in this village. It is one of the oldest sportsmen's clubs in this section of the State and club members are active in the propagation and distribution of pheasants throughout this vicinity and during the year release thousands of trout in nearby streams. The trout are furnished by the New York State Department of Conservation. The club property is composed of about twenty acres of land located on the Gypsy Lane Road along the banks of the Genesee River. The property is equipped with a modern system of floodlights used to make night skeet and trapshooting possible. There is also a rifle range, clubhouse and brooder houses and incubators for the raising of the young pheasants.

The Wellsville Country Club is the only organized club of its type in Allegany County. It was formed in 1911 and its members own a modern nine-hole golf course and beautiful clubhouse on property located on the northern boundary of the village on both sides of the Wellsville-Scio Highway. Many improvements have been made to the club property during the past year and its membership is growing rapidly.

Wellsville today is the home of two strong banks—the First Trust Company and the Citizens National Bank, both of which are centers of the village's financial life.

The first banker in Wellsville was E. P. Clark, who had an office in his store during the early fifties. In 1868 William A. and Sumner Baldwin established the Bank of Wellsville, a private institution, which continued in business until January 1, 1894, when it failed. Yorke & Chamberlain's Bank, established in the early sixties, failed in 1877.

The First National Bank, now the First Trust Company, had its foundation in the old Hoyt & Lewis Bank, which began in a small way in 1856, when arrangements were made by Hoyt & Lewis, dry goods merchants, to make deposits and draw drafts. Until February, 1879, business was conducted in a small office partitioned off from the store in the Union Block, then the bank moved into the Yorke & Chamber-

lain Bank Building at the corner of Main and Furnace streets. Mr. Lewis attended the bank business while Mr. Hoyt ran the store.

On December 11, 1882, a group of Wellsville businessmen drew up a certificate of incorporation and formed the First National Bank. The banking house was established on the corner of Main and Madison streets in the new home of the Hoyt & Lewis Bank. The building



(Courtesy of the Wellsville Daily Reporter)

THE ORIGINAL DAVID A. HOWE MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY, WELLSVILLE, OPENED IN 1908 AT THE CORNER OF MAIN AND JEFFERSON STREETS. IT WAS REMODELED AND OCCUPIED IN 1938 AS CITY HALL

was constructed in 1881. The present home of the First Trust Company was built in 1905 and the bank continued as the First National until July 2, 1917, when it was reorganized under the present name.

Two capital changes have occurred since the first bank was organized. On July 8, 1912, officers voted to increase the original capital of $100,000 to $150,000 and, on August 21, 1917, the capital was increased to the present $300,000. In 1939 the banking house was remodeled throughout the interior, a new vault installed in an addi-

tion constructed on the rear end of the building and the outside of the structure given a complete cleaning and painting.

The Citizens National Bank was organized in the spring of 1895 and occupied the offices of the former Baldwin Bros. Bank located in what is even today known as the Baldwin Block. The original capital of $50,000 was later increased to $100,000 and, on April 21, 1933, was increased to $200,000. The present building was opened on November 6, 1923, and the bank's offices moved from the location in the Baldwin Block, which is now occupied by the Hamilton Shoe Store.

George B. Rooth is president of First Trust Company and Howard N. Cassel is president of the Citizens National Bank.

Deposits of the First Trust Company at the close of business on October 2, 1939, were $3,777,269.45. On the same date Citizens National Bank deposits totaled $1,395,293.03.

The 1939 assessed valuation of the village of Wellsville is $7,470,390 and the same year's assessed valuation of the township outside the village corporation is $3,007,534.

The village and township is furnished telephone service by the New York Telephone Company. This firm took over the affairs of the Allegany County Telephone Company on February 17, 1932. The latter company had served most Allegany County communities since the beginning of telephone service shortly after the turn of the century.

Natural gas is furnished here by the Empire Gas & Fuel Company as the retail outlet for the Bradley Producing Corporation and other affiliated corporations engaged in the production of oil and natural gas in northern Pennsylvania and southern New York State.

As this is written in the autumn of 1939, the future of Wellsville looks bright. The price of crude oil is $2.25 per barrel and the present European War is looked upon as the possible motivation for further increases in the price of this important commodity.

The community's steady growth appears to be continuing and the next person to bring the history of Wellsville up to date in the future will probably find—as we have found—the continuing story of a slowly growing village and township nestling in the Genesee Valley, where Nathaniel Dyke built the first log house and became the father of the first new Wellsville citizen.

CHAPTER LIX

Allegany Common School Education

An advanced college student seeking a subject for a thesis required for his doctorate degree, could find one worthy of study in the development of common school education in a county such as Allegany, where the problems to be solved have been those of small and widely scattered communities with rural rather than urban backgrounds, functioning under the advantages and disadvantages of the district school system. One reason why this county lends itself to such a study is the character of its early, later and modern settlement, and peoples. While its population is mainly old American—by this meaning those deriving from several generations resident in this country—nearly all nationalities are represented. The pioneers came chiefly from New England, often by way of other sections of New York which they had tried and found lacking. There were many from lower New York and Pennsylvania, and a lesser number from more southerly states. With them they brought three types of educational ideals: The compulsory, civic-religious type of the Puritan; the parochial school of Pennsylvania; the Virginia private school supported by the wealthy class, with pauper schools for the children of the poor. Since the New Englanders were more numerous and influential in the beginning and continued so over a long period, their ideas became dominant. As is somewhat surprising, those ideas were sufficiently elastic to find room for modifications of the systems in favor in other sections of America. By the time Allegany County was well on its way to settlement, there had been laid the foundations of elementary, secondary and higher education, and significantly, of the district school which became and remained the outstanding feature of the Allegany school system.

When the first settlers arrived in what became, in 1806, Allegany County, they were concerned not with educational methods or systems; they were intent upon making a living and having their children

brought up as well as was possible under primitive conditions. Unlike Puritan procedure, the schoolhouse was often built before the church and so remained the only meeting place of the religiously inclined. Even before a log school was constructed, teaching was begun. Joseph A. Rathbun taught pupils in 1802—he is reputed to have secured the first deed to land for a farm in the county. Angelica had a school in 1804; Amity in 1810; Wellsville in 1811; Scio in 1819; and probably all towns had educational facilities prior to 1825. Some of these were private ventures, the sideline activities of one whose chief occupation was not instruction. No doubt Rathbun was more interested in the clearing and cultivation of his land than in teaching.

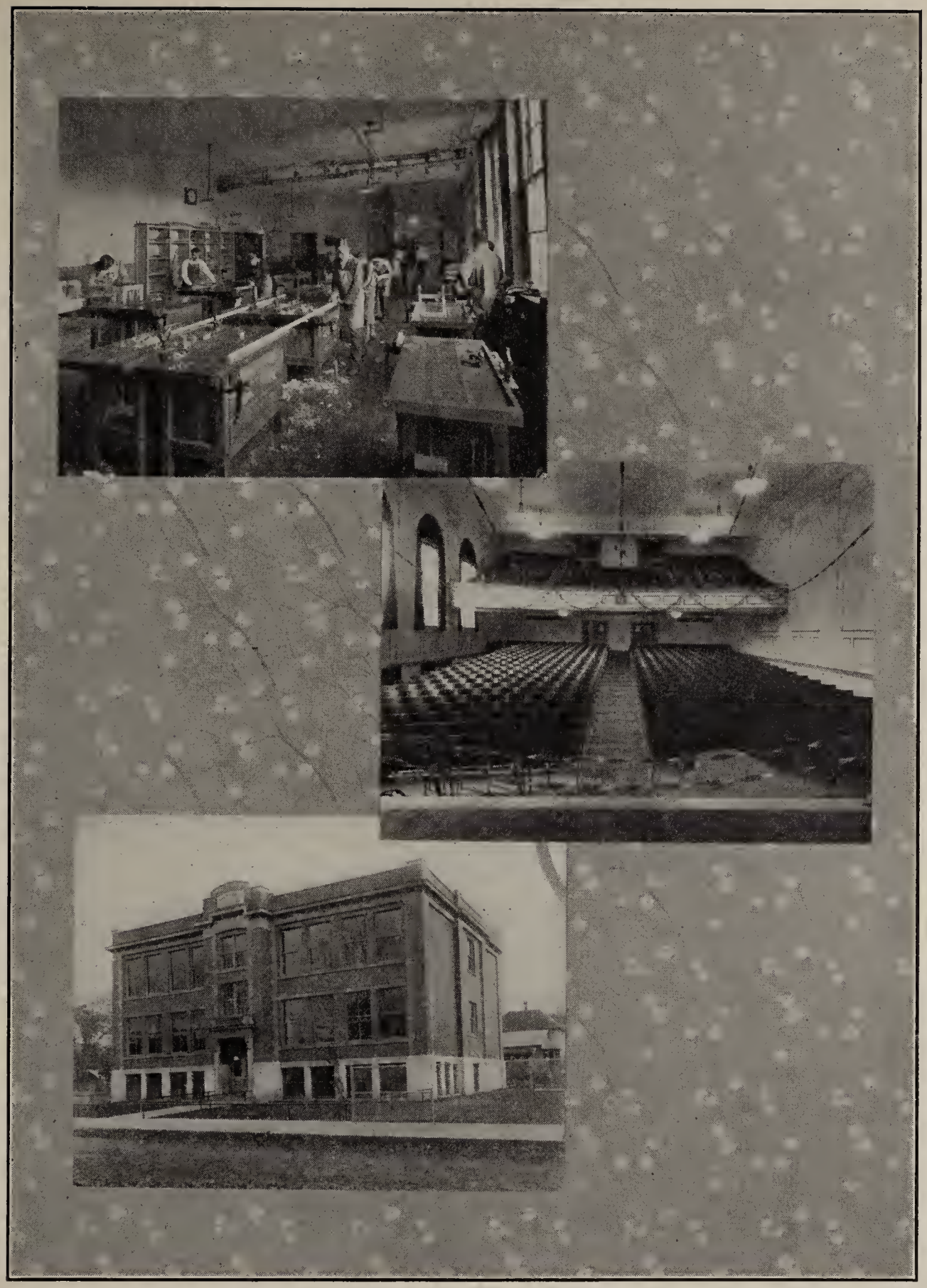
There is no need to pretend that these schools were good, or that the "log universities" taught much more than the three "R's." It is said that a hundred years ago there were but two schools in the county that were not built of logs, with a fireplace as the sole ornament and most useful feature. There are folk still living who recall the chore of cutting wood and feeding the hungry fire. They were as likely to stand upon the "dunce block" for not knowing how to swing an axe, as for being unable to read their "American Manual" or "Hale's History." Customarily a woman teacher was employed in the summer when most men, women and children had to tend crops. A man was generally sought for the winter term when the older boys attended, some of them bigger and stronger than the schoolmaster. Discipline was an ideal rather than a reality, and instruction far from scientific or thorough. It would be a mistake, however, to think lightly of the accomplishments of primitive schooling; the expression, "Beware of the man of one book," attained its significance in the backwoods. Limited opportunities and outlook, in youth, often make for intellectual ruggedness and virile leadership.

If the products of the early schools were often admirable, so also were some teachers. These seldom were learned; not many had even a thorough education; neither were they inspired in their task by any especially noble impulses; but they wrought well under the most discouraging circumstances. They circulated around the neighborhood, living with the families having pupils, being supported by public contributions chiefly from parents. The remuneration received was not only scant but paid only in part in money. Samuel A. Earley, himself a product of a log schoolhouse, quoted from Allegany records: "I give one bushel of Indian corn and one cord of wood to Robert Reed for teaching my two boys for three months." "I give one bushel of

wheat, one quarter of beef and three bushels of buckwheat for my four children's schooling this winter." (1824.)

Not until well after New York State adopted the district school as a basis of public school education did the long familiar little "red" (or other color) schoolhouse become a feature of the rural landscape. A State law of 1812 probably meant far more to all sections of New York than the Act of Congress, in that same year, declaring war with England. Under this law each town in a county could be divided by three school commissioners into school districts, each district empowered to elect three trustees to take charge of the local schools. The move was New England in source and type, and its value rested not alone in outlining a way in which common schools could be established, managed and supported, but in its influence upon the development of democracy. The school district became the smallest political division in which legislative power is exercised by a citizen. The annual gathering of a few citizens to debate and legislate on education, taught those who participated the rudiments of the democratic institutions, ways and duties.

This common school law went into effect in 1814, but it was a decade before it was generally observed in Allegany County. The law was administered from top to bottom by a State Superintendent of Common Schools (for a few years), county supervisors and commissioners, local inspectors and trustees. Each district was expected to raise its own funds, except such small sums as were provided by the State. Other sources of income, aside from taxes and contributions, were such as that derived from the "Military Tract," where from each township of sixty thousand acres, a six hundred acre lot was donated for the support of "literature" (usually called the "library fund"), and a second lot of six hundred acres for religion and common schools. Proprietors of the Poultney and Holland purchases promised to help provide educational facilities, but the agents representing them usually refused to fulfill the agreement. Philip Church, owner of 100,000 acres in Allegany County, was liberal in his aid of all cultural and religious agencies. How meager was all this outside help when distributed among districts may be judged from certain old receipts. One of 1830 shows that Joseph Davis, of Scio, trustee, received for his district the sum of $7.50. Another, dated 1831, reads: "Received of Samuel Van Campen, Commissioner of Schools, $12.36, for District No. 2, Scio. Middaugh Hill and Philip McCutcheon, trustees." "Report of Amity School District, No. 4, Amity, 1831; whole number of families in district, 9; number in school, 6; refused by teacher,



(Photos by Amory Stewart, Courtesy of George F. Jammer, Superintendent of Schools)

TOP: WOOD SHOP, WELLSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL. CENTER: AUDITORIUM, SEATING 780, WELLSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL. BOTTOM: MARTIN GRADE SCHOOL, WELLSVILLE

one. Benjamin Luther, district clerk." It may be added that in the early 1830s, it was the custom to elect three "inspectors" in each town to look after the schools and examine teachers; there were also three "trustees" who did the actual hiring of teachers and paid them either from public moneys, or in rate bills. A "rate bill" was the amount parents were assessed proportionately to the number of children they sent to school, and the number of days the pupils attended sessions.

The rate bill system produced bad results: Those who were keenly interested in their children's education and could afford to pay for it, were forced by the proportionate rate to bear too large a part of the expense of a school and its inadequate, underpaid teacher. One effect was to make the select school, seminary, or private academy popular. If one had to expend large amounts for the children's education, why not use these, and perhaps a bit more, to send them to a much better institution? Many parents did, with the result that academies flourished and the district school faded. Conditions approached the "prince and pauper" type of education stemming from old Virginia.

No doubt there were private schools in Allegany prior to the 1840s which are now forgotten. In 1836, Lyman Lovell, Vermont Yankee, taught a superior school of thirty to thirty-five pupils at Centerville. In that same year Bethuel C. Church opened a "select school," which was the nucleus of Alfred University. All he had at first was a single room in a private home, but within two or three years his enterprise had become an "academy" with the Rev. James R. Irish as principal. William C. Kenyon, "who was to education in this section what John Marshall was to the judiciary of the United States," according to an old schoolman, joined the faculty(?) of the academy in 1839. The story of Alfred University is related elsewhere in this volume, and needs no mention here except to credit its professors and graduates with promoting education of all types in the county.

In about 1843, J. W. Earle, another Vermonter, inaugurated what for some time was one of the best schools in the Centerville section. It attracted students from a wide area. Angelica had an academy, incorporated May 12, 1836, for which the claim is made that it was the first of its kind in Allegany County to receive a charter. It was not until two decades later that the town established the institution of which it was rightly proud. Fire destroyed the Angelica Academy in November, 1867, and it was never rebuilt. The Rev. Samuel Center was the first principal of the school.

Richburg, Friendship, Rushford, Belfast, Genesee and Cuba all had academies at one time or another. Richburg Academy started with a building erected in 1848 at a cost of $3,000. Professor Bixby and his wife were the first instructors, followed by Professors Badgley and H. H. Jones. The Richburg Union High School replaced this institution.

The Rushford Academy started from a movement to raise a fund for its establishment of $2,500. It was duly incorporated on March 4, 1852, but like similar ventures, the cost of the building was double the amount expected. It did much fine work, and Principal Ira Sayles contributed exceptionally well to the advance of education in northwestern Allegany. Rushford Academy became a good sized union school in 1867.

Friendship Academy opened its doors to students in about 1848, under the direction of Dennis C. Walker, who soon gave way to the more noted Jeremiah Hatch, who was followed by Professor Prosper Miller. Eventually, it was consolidated into a union school which, as regards the building, lasted until burned in 1893.

The well-known Wilson's Academy grew from the bequest, in 1879, of Colonel William Wilson, who left $20,000 "to establish in the village of Angelica an academical institution of learning to be, and remain, in all respects unsectarian." Incorporated under a provisional charter, in 1883, the trustees in the fall of 1885 engaged John C. Slocum, a graduate from Yale College, to serve as principal. There still was no academy building in existence, and the first school sessions were held in the courthouse. In 1886, however, an estate of thirteen acres, on which was a large brick dwelling, was purchased. In that same year educational standards were raised to the requirements of the State Regents, and a full charter granted.

Cuba Academy, a popular select school, changed its name, in 1869, when the district accepted the union school law. It was accepted in 1881 as a high school by the State Regents.

The first schoolhouse in Bolivar was built in 1820, with Rachel Gilbert as the summer teacher, Austin Cowles taking over instruction during the following winter. No. 1 District School here became "union" in 1885, under Professor McCartney. In 1891 Regents standards were adopted and Bolivar High has since ranked well among county schools of this class.

The Genesee Valley Seminary and Union School dates from many years ago.

Of Caneadea and "Houghton," another writer relates the history, but it will do no harm to repeat an incident in connection with its founding. It seems that in October, 1882, the Rev. D. S. Kinney, prominent Wesleyan Methodist minister and manager of the denominational publishing house in Syracuse, said to Willard J. Houghton: "We, as a denomination, very much need a select school in western New York." The comment was a seed that fell on fertile soil. Early in 1883 enough subscriptions had been raised to warrant a charter which was secured in April of that year. Mr. and Mrs. Tucker donated eleven acres as a site, and work was begun. In the fall of 1884, the institution held its first classes in a building that was still in the process of completion.

The development of education in Allegany County as traced thus far has been: The first schools wholly supported by individuals; very meager assistance from the State and corporations under the district school system; and, contemporaneously, select schools and academies, privately organized and financed (mainly), some without charters. "The academy," says one commentator, "was the center of the intellectual life of the community, and next to the church, and in some respects even surpassing the church, it was the most potent force for right living and high thinking. Even in the small communities of Allegany these academies gained a reputation that extended for considerable distances; some entered higher fields of education." When the terms of the Union Free School legislation made it possible—and advisable—for a group of common school districts to unite in a union school with an academic department, the academies began to decline. As we have seen, most of them became the academic department of the Union School of the locality, or the high schools of today.

The history of education generally, and in Allegany, has been marked by constant legislative changes, endeavors to increase the availability of schools to the children of the rich and poor alike, the raising of standards, increased financial support. At Albany legislation has gone on since New York became a State. It was not until 1904 that, what seems to be a reasonably permanent decision as regards the manner of control from the top, was reached. In that year the independent Department of Public Instruction, which operated under ten successive State superintendents from 1854, was combined with the Board of Regents in a unified system. Allegany County had as much difficulty in deciding what kind of supervision it desired during this same period. As early as 1856 the office of county super-

intendent was abolished, and later all town superintendents went the same way. District superintendents of schools have longest been the important figures in local education. Those holding this office in Allegany at the present writing (1939) are: Frank L. Tuthill, Fillmore; George H. Smith, Cuba; Wilfred J. Coyle, Richburg; W. H. Garwood, Canaseraga; W. Gates Pope, Andover.



(Courtesy of the Wellsville Daily Reporter)

OLD WELLSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING ON MAIN STREET. SITE NOW OCCUPIED BY DAVID A. HOWE MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

The problem of how to pay for the costs of education, especially what proportion was to be borne by other than local or county taxpayers, has yet to be finally determined. There are some who believe that the ultimate solution must come from Washington! So far, State aid has been inadequate, and it is manifestly impossible for rural sections to provide from their own resources adequate schooling facilities. In this connection one is reminded of what State aid meant when

first the district school system was adopted. In 1813 the county received under this legislation the sum of $58.86; in 1815, $100.33; in 1816, $190.98. Nearly forty years later, in 1855, the amount received by Allegany totaled $17,788.12, of which $17,108.28 went for teachers' wages and $679.84 for libraries. The increase in four decades had not kept pace with the increase in school attendance.

The 1840s were banner years in the annals of Allegany education, especially along the line of the inauguration of methods and means to promote the better training of teachers. In 1847 the teachers' institute idea was adopted, whereby such an institute could be held when asked for by a majority of town superintendents in any county. The outstanding leader in this movement in the county was Professor William C. Kenyon, already mentioned in connection with the founding of Alfred University. He had been elected by the county board of supervisors, in 1841, "deputy superintendent of the common schools." He already long had been county superintendent of schools. Professor Kenyon visited practically every school in the county and called local citizens together during the evenings to explain to them the advantages of a sound education. Wrote Earley: "He breathed into them 'the breath of life and they became living souls.' The fire was kindled. A teachers' meeting was called at Friendship in December, 1843. A preliminary organization effected what resulted in a permanent teachers' association, in September, 1844. The prime movers of this association were Gurdon Evans, Dr. Horace H. Nye, Dr. C. R. Earley, Cyrus Niver, Jerome Harrison, Betsy Harrison, Mina Le Suer (Marvin), Susan Crandall (Larkin), Charles Willard, Cyrus Cotton, W. H. Crandall, John Wells and many others."

Town associations were also initiated in the 1840s. These might be called the forerunners of the parent-teachers association, in that a principal activity was local gatherings in which the teachers and citizens were expected to take part. Between the two-week sessions of the institute and the meeting of town associations, the instructors in the schools sharpened up their knowledge of their profession, fostered a solidarity of endeavors, and had some good times. There is no doubt that both contributed to the teacher's efficiency and improved local instruction. Then, and later, all the institutions of higher learning and the academies in the county lent vigorous aid to all undertakings that had to do with the betterment of those who taught school or had anything to do with the improvement of the conditions under which pupils received their education.

In this brief review of former educational activities in Allegany, statistics have been avoided as much as was possible and no attempt will be made to portray present-day annals of educational affairs. There is one statistic which we would like to outline for it is identified with a period when the union school was broadly expanded. In 1895 there were thirteen union schools, Alfred, Andover, Belfast, Belmont, Bolivar, Canaseraga, Cuba, Friendship, Richburg, Rushford, Whitesville, and Wellsville Districts One and Two. At that time seventy-seven teachers served these schools, fifteen of whom were in Districts One and Two of Wellsville. Friendship had nine teachers; Cuba, eight; Bolivar and Belmont, seven each; Andover, six; Canaseraga, five. Compare this with the present year, 1939, and the five sections, now administered by district superintendents, Andover, Canaseraga, Cuba, Richburg and Fillmore. Wellsville has its own local school system; Fillmore came along in the present century. It should be pointed out that at that time, 1895, there were three hundred and thirty-three teachers employed in the county. There were almost twelve thousand children of school age in Allegany, of which 9,648 attended school at some time during the year, and 2,348 who did not. The Compulsory Attendance Act went into effect on January 1, 1895, but it was some time before it really operated with any degree of effectiveness in the county. The total expenditure for the common schools of Allegany, 1895, was but $105,570.

The annals of education in Wellsville have been somewhat different from other places in Allegany, because it has been the metropolis of the county since its incorporation in 1871. E. Willard Barnes has written the history of the village for this volume and, no doubt, related the story of its developments along educational lines. We may be pardoned, however, even if there are differences in dates, pointing out that the settlement's children were going to school in a log cabin some time before 1832, when Miss Hilda Hall was a teacher, and this same schoolhouse served as a place of religious worship. In 1842, after several other moves, the center of education was located on what is known as the academy site. On November 16, 1859, the Union Free School District was established, and the academy incorporated on April 1, 1865. This became the academic department of the Union School, in July, 1892, in conformance with Regents' standards, and housed in an especially fine building.

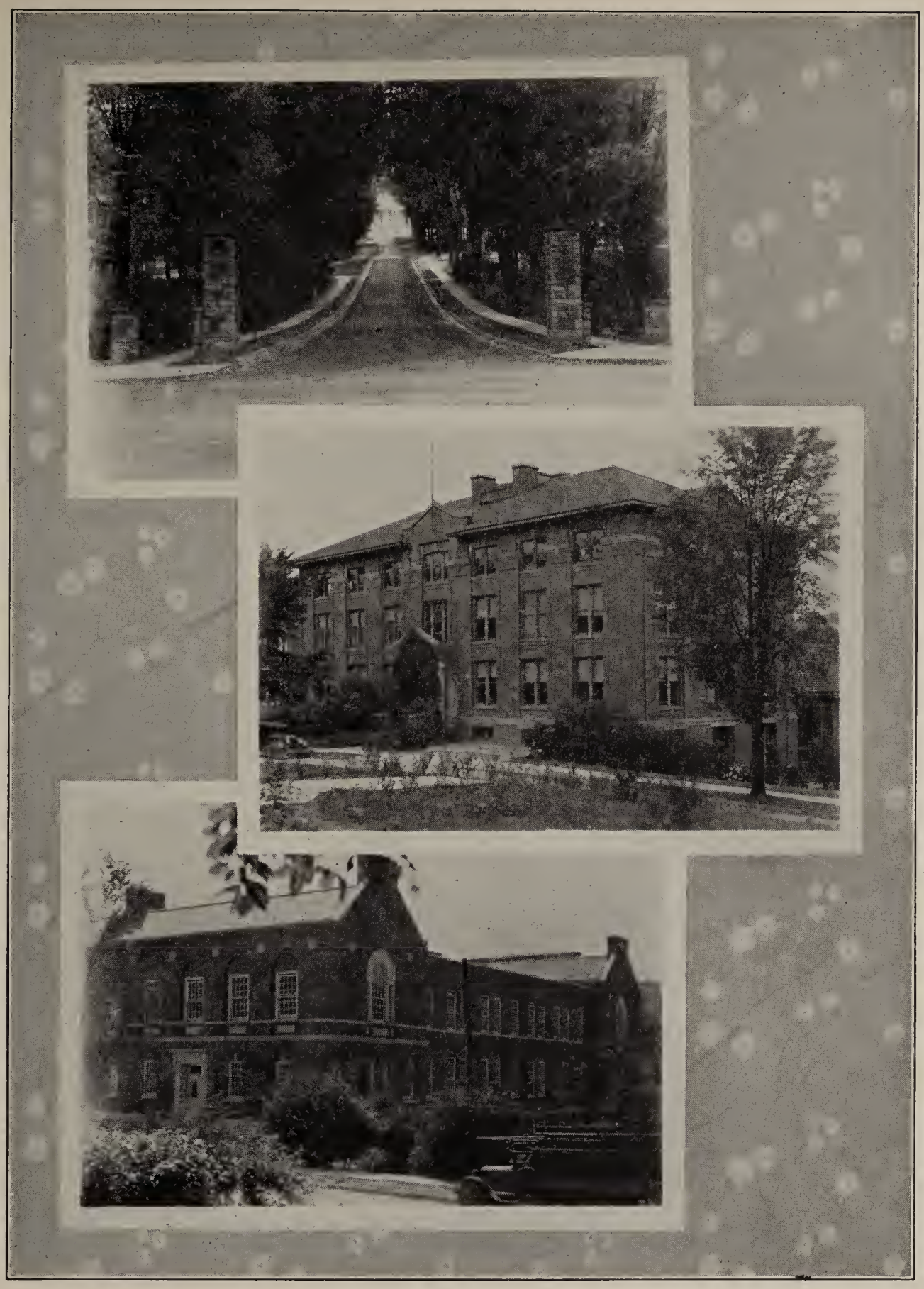
CHAPTER LX

Alfred University

By President J. Nelson Norwood, M. A., Ph. D.

Origins—In the fourth decade of the nineteenth century Allegany County was still very much a wilderness; farms were partly cleared; houses were unfinished; homes were largely economically self-sufficient, and life was primitive; the wolf, the bear, and the panther inhabited the forests, and wolves, at least up to 1842, were objects of a bounty paid for their destruction. In a narrow valley guarded by majestic hills a little community then or very soon called Alfred Center had taken root. Its settlers, sturdy stock from New England, were largely Seventh Day Baptists. They were folk of deep religious conviction, rigid morals, high ideals, and unquenchable faith. The church and the school focused their institutional interests. By 1836 a district school, a library, a literary debating society, and a singing school all flourished. But these did not satisfy the rising thirst of the population for learning.

Academies were springing up everywhere, representing a widespread desire for education beyond the district schools. While yet there were barely a dozen houses within a radius of a mile around the present village, a young settler, Amos W. Coon by name, made a trip into central New York, where he met Bethuel C. Church, another young man, who had acquired some academic education. Coon persuaded Church to come to Alfred and open a select school. Church agreed to come on condition that twenty students could be secured willing to pay three dollars each for tuition for a thirteen-week term. Some difficulty was experienced in winning the required number, but Mr. Church came and the little school opened with nineteen students, ultimately enrolling thirty-seven. The great day was Monday, December 5, 1836. The place was an upper room in one of the homes in the village. Amos Coon had himself worked hard performing much of the labor to lath and plaster that room for the new enterprise. He



(Courtesy of Alfred University)

TOP: ENTRANCE GATEWAY, ALFRED UNIVERSITY (SUSAN HOWELL SOCIAL HALL IN DISTANCE). CENTER: NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AT ALFRED UNIVERSITY. BOTTOM: MAIN BUILDING, NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF CERAMICS, ALFRED UNIVERSITY.

himself also became a pupil in the school. From this small beginning has grown the Alfred University of today. The school that winter was a great success. Bethuel C. Church, being somewhat of a rover, moved away and was instrumental in the founding of at least one other academy. The local people were pleased with the good start. While the upper room had been fairly adequate for the first winter, the school promised to grow and must find more commodious quarters. The first building owned by this educational enterprise was the result of what one may call a sacrilegious kiss. It came about in this way: The church house serving this community was nearly a mile north of the present center of the village and served also for the people further down the valley at Baker's Bridge, now Alfred Station. The singing school had been meeting periodically in the church. There was some doubt as to the propriety of that use for a dedicated building. One evening when the singing school was in session a young man impulsively kissed one of the young ladies. This created a great furor and resulted in a decision that the singing school could no longer use the meetinghouse. Now there were two institutions desiring a meeting place: the singing school and the select school, which was already being called informally an "academy." Meetings were convened, plans were perfected, subscriptions were solicited, and a one-story building, twenty-eight by thirty-eight feet, was erected at a cost of $550 just west of the present church edifice. Dignified people called the new school building the "Cadmus," but because of its peculiar cupola some spoke of it a bit irreverently as the "Horned Bug."

The second teacher of this school was James Reed Irish, a student at Union College. For two winters he conducted the select school or "academy" with marked success. A religious revival breaking out in the community and in the school, for which he was partially responsible, led him to give up the school, accept ordination and become pastor of the local church (1839). To succeed him he recommended his friend, also a student at Union College, whose name was William Colgrove Kenyon. For the rest of his life Kenyon was to be the leading figure in the development of the little school. He was a man of the highest character, small, wiry, sandy-haired, tense, vivid, a dominating personality, sometimes very severe, especially on the idle or shiftless pupil, short of temper, and known throughout his life as "Boss" Kenyon. He was a hard taskmaster, but he never spared himself. He was loved as few educational leaders have been loved. In 1841, so promising had the enterprise become, a two-story addition to the Cadmus was completed. Recognizing the achievement and

value of the school and the part it was playing in general education and in the training of teachers, the State chartered it in 1843 as "Alfred Academy and Teachers' Seminary."

Alfred Academy and Teachers' Seminary—In spite of the enlarged Cadmus, the new academy rapidly outgrew its quarters. A campus was purchased on the east side of the valley, and in 1846 three buildings were erected. These were: North Hall, which was occupied by the men; South Hall, a dormitory for women; and Middle Hall, where the principal and some of his colleagues lived. The Cadmus now came to be called "West Hall." A loan of $10,000 from Samuel White, of Whitesville, made possible this new expansion. Thus the school was launched as a full-fledged academy, with excellent patronage and progressive leadership. The regular secondary school courses of that day were offered. Classes were held all times of day from early morning, often before daylight, when recitations must be conducted in the dark. The methods used were extremely exacting on the pupils. Principal Kenyon's impatient "Next, next, next" in class would often seat a hesitating or slow-spoken student before he could collect his wits and start his recitation. Discipline of mind was the prime emphasis of those school days, and mental discipline was achieved to a remarkable degree. Examinations were oral and public. Visitors came on purpose to be present when pupils underwent this ordeal. The general comment of visitors always was that the pupils showed remarkable advancement and much ability to think and speak on their feet. Anniversaries, as the early and even more recent commencement occasions were called, were the outstanding events of the years for all this part of southwestern New York. Commencement exercises were first held in the school auditorium and when that became too small were held in the church, and when that in turn became too small, they were held in a grove near the three buildings. Exercises lasted all day. There might be sixty or seventy essays and orations interspersed with music. A recess of an hour was declared for the mid-day meal. People began coming early in the morning, even before daylight. They came in oxcarts, in farm wagons, and in almost every kind of conveyance available. Many came on foot. Reports from those times indicate that there may have been between two and three thousand guests. After the delivery of the orations and essays the diplomas were awarded.

It is easy to picture in the mind's eye the scene: the great audience under the trees on the western slope of Pine Hill, the people dressed in

their homespun best, visiting among themselves at any lull in the proceedings, and listening intently to the wide variety of presentations, to the music and to the talks by the teachers. There were the new buildings, the faculty members in their best dress, the July sun shining overhead, and the thick foliage and mountain scenery in their midsummer glory. The participants particularly were greatly impressed as their reminiscences in later years plentifully testify.

In 1849 "Boss" Kenyon began to feel that the burden of directing the enterprise alone was becoming too heavy. He took the matter up with his colleagues and there resulted the famous Compact of 1849. Under its terms seven teachers banded together to take over, subject to the corporate charter and the board of trustees, the ownership of the academy, each to withdraw yearly just sufficient pay for family needs (about $300 as it turned out); to use any surplus for the payment of debts and for the improvement of facilities; and in general to assume the joint management and burden of the school. As one of the members wrote many years later, this was a beautiful theory but not very successful in practice. These seven young men were individualists; several of them had been students in the academy and had imbibed from its teachings and spirit a strong sense of personal responsibility, and it could hardly be expected that they would agree in all matters. There was some difficulty over the alleged non-sectarian character of the academy. One difference led to another. James Marvin withdrew, went his own way, and in due time became chancellor of the University of Kansas; Darius Ford withdrew and spent the greater part of a most useful life as a professor in Elmira College; others went in various directions. Two stayed through: William C. Kenyon and Jonathan Allen. This compact, although dissolved, was not without valuable results. It greatly improved the morale of the management; increased patronage came; a new building was built in 1851-52, the present Alumni Hall, making five in all; additional instructors were employed; and the work of the academy was carried into the college years, thus enabling students to enter colleges with advanced standing. Teacher training was increasingly emphasized.

The University Charter—Talk about a college charter was frequent. As the years passed other forces came in to increase the pressure for collegiate rank. In 1855, after several false starts, the Seventh Day Baptist Education Society was founded. This society culminated a generation of agitation for a literary and theological

school of college grade under the influence of Seventh Day Baptists. The two ideas were always tied together: a literary and theological institution. In the academic year of 1856-57, Professor Jonathan Allen spent the winter in Albany working for a college charter. March 28, 1857, the bill became law creating Alfred University instead of Alfred College, as had been requested. The charter is brief but comprehensive and continues the idea of a non-sectarian school by omit-



(Courtesy of Alfred University)

ALFRED UNIVERSITY. CAMPUS VIEW SHOWING ALUMNI HALL WITH CORNER OF KENYON MEMORIAL HALL

ting all mention of church or denominational control. In April, 1857, the college department under the university was organized. Principal Kenyon of the academy was elected president of the university and the departments of instruction were set up.

Almost exactly four years later the Civil War broke out, disorganizing higher education the country over. Every male member of Alfred's class of 1861 volunteered for the Union Army. The new college, while suffering as others did from war conditions, nobly did

its duty in the cause of the Union and the freedom of the slaves. From the start it had embodied three outstanding radicalisms of those early days: abolitionism; equal educational and other rights for women; and vigorous opposition to the liquor traffic. On the other hand it was very strict in regulating the association of men and women on the campus: for two generations "unpermitted association" were by-words; mixed dancing and secret societies, until well into the twentieth century, were taboo.

Intensifying the difficulties created by the Civil War were other problems. The sudden change to university rank meant inevitably that the school had ceased to be a superior academy and had become a second or third rate college. The successful struggle to give Alfred a real college standing among the colleges of the State occupied the attention of faculty and friends for many years. The burning of South Hall in 1858 had led to the erection of University Hall ("The Brick") in 1860. In the midst of the Civil War also came the Rogers Observatory, built for and manned for a time by the noted astronomer, William A. Rogers. From 1861 on more attention was given to strengthening the courses in theology.

William C. Kenyon, who had led the school now for more than a quarter of a century, was nearing the end of his career. The nervous intensity and driving energy of the man were burning up his rather slight physique, and ill health became more and more a problem to him. After months of unsuccessful search for health in this country and in Europe, he died in London in June, 1867. Thus far three men had stood out as the founders and fosterers of Alfred University: Bethuel C. Church, James R. Irish, and William C. Kenyon.

From Kenyon to Allen—On the death of President Kenyon all eyes turned to the most outstanding member of the faculty, Jonathan Allen, who was now named president, and who for a quarter of a century directed Alfred's affairs. President Allen had been a thirteen-year-old pupil in that first select school. One of the youngest, he had paid his tuition with cord wood chopped largely by himself. Graduating from the academy (1844), he had attended Oberlin College for some terms. In 1852 he had received there the baccalaureate degree and three years later the master's degree. After serious correspondence with "Boss" Kenyon he had returned in 1849 and had attached himself to the faculty of the academy just in time to join the famous compact. President Allen was a man of majestic mien, powerful physique, and in his later years patriarchal appearance through the wearing of

a long white beard. A man of immense intellectual power, with a capacity for unlimited work, he mastered many of the fields of human interest, including theology, philosophy, elocution, various of the natural sciences, and law, which latter subject he studied while in Albany promoting the granting of the charter.

During the years of President Allen's leadership new emphases were given to science in the curriculum of the university. Assisted by Ethan P. Larkin, another enthusiast in the natural sciences, large and important collections of specimens of various kinds in natural history and geology were obtained, and we read much about the "cabinet," as the container of such specimens was called, both at Alfred and elsewhere. Agitation was had, from time to time, for more adequate housing for these specimens. President Allen built a building which at first had been intended for a home, but which became in time a museum. It was called the Steinheim and at the present time is the oldest but one of the college science museum buildings in the United States. Meantime a movement got under way for another university building to be known as Kenyon Memorial Hall, in honor of the late president. After years of effort this building was dedicated in 1882. It housed the "cabinet" until, finally, the scattered collections were all consolidated in the Steinheim.

During this period also demand arose among students and faculty for a gymnasium. Physical education was gradually coming into its own. The university was unable to provide a building so an association of students and faculty with some townspeople was formed for the purpose of providing it. In 1875 hopes were realized and the gymnasium became a reality. Its usefulness, however, was brief as interest again lagged. Funds were lacking to keep it in condition and it soon became an abandoned relic. In later years it was moved from its location on the site of the present Hall of Physics to the creek bank, and now provides storage room and a shop for the university carpenter. At this time also the Gothic came into the possession of the university (1876).

In the early part of President Allen's régime the university was offering courses from the primary department up through the college. The catalogue listed the following departments: primary, preparatory, academic, collegiate and theological. Courses were classified as normal or teachers, scientific, classical, combined or ladies, practical mechanics, and theological, besides special courses in art, music, teleg-

raphy and bookkeeping. The primary, preparatory and academic courses included subjects generally implied by those terms. In the academic, particularly, were: Algebra, Latin grammar, Cæsar, Cicero, Virgil, Greek, Anabasis, physical geography, natural philosophy, civil government, and American history. In the scientific course in college the sophomore year's work covered in three terms trigonometry, German, French, spherical astronomy, and descriptive astronomy. French



(Courtesy of Alfred University)

ALFRED UNIVERSITY—CARNEGIE LIBRARY

was studied two terms while German was studied all three. In the classical course in the senior year there were taught: logic, psychology, elocution, Greek Testament, ethics, law, universal history, æsthetics, theology, and the history and philosophy of civilization. The work of the third term apparently was given entirely by lectures. Courses in industrial mechanics included a surprisingly wide range of subjects in that field. In the senior year in theology, doctrinal theology, history of doctrines, pastoral theology, composition and delivery of sermons were studied. The degrees conferred at that time were: Bache-

lor or Laureate of Education on those who completed the normal or teachers' course; Bachelor of Arts or Laureate of Arts on those who completed either of the other college courses; Bachelor of Science on students completing the three-year course in industrial mechanics; Bachelor of Arts on theological students completing an equivalent of either of the longer college courses. The degree of Laureate of Arts or Laureate of Education was conferred on women and either was considered equal to the corresponding baccalaureate degrees.

Tuition and incidentals in the different departments varied from $3.00 per term of about thirteen weeks in the primary to $10 in the higher departments. There were three terms each year. Board and room cost between $33 and $46 per term; fuel $3.00 to $6.00 and washing $2.00 to $3.00. Extra fees were charged for special courses and for the use of musical and other instruments.

At the semi-centennial in 1886 the university's property in buildings, grounds and equipment of all sorts was valued at $150,000. The endowment stood at about $145,000, while the budget for that year was $14,042. The buildings at that date (six in number) were: Middle Hall (the White House), the Chapel (Alumni Hall), The Brick, the Rogers Observatory, Kenyon Memorial Hall, and the Gothic. The Steinheim was privately owned.

President Allen was a prominent figure in the educational work of the State. In 1873 he was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Philosophy by the university of the State of New York. Gradually the institution had been taking on real college standards. But President Allen's day was drawing to its close. In September, 1892, he passed to his reward.

The Critical Decade, 1890-1900—The decade of the 90s may be thought of as the critical decade of Alfred's history; not only did the university lose President Allen, but several other men important to it educationally and financially passed away. On the death of the patriarchal Allen, Alpheus B. Kenyon, of the class of 1874, then professor of mathematics and now remembered as one who for over fifty years was a great figure in Alfred's history, was made acting president while the trustees searched for a permanent head. The choice fell upon the Rev. Dr. Arthur Elwin Main, a prominent minister of the denomination, who began his service as president in the spring of 1893. His administration was a critical one. He had many forward-looking ideas and did his best to get them accepted and put into practice. Perhaps he was in a little too much of a hurry. Differences and dissen-

sions arose which were anything but good for the struggling school. Financial difficulties, shrinking attendance, and differences in the administration brought the university to a low ebb. Doctor Main resigned in 1895 and again the problem of a president was presented. Fortunately, a young alumnus, Boothe Colwell Davis, '90, a West Virginian, and at the time pastor of the local church, was available and in June of that year was elected to the headship. Therewith began a brilliant presidential career of thirty-eight years. Gradually the tide turned and the university again started on the upward road. Burdick Hall was loaned to the university as a dormitory (1896). This building had had a very checkered existence. Originally the old North Hall in the late 60s it had been sold to the school district, moved to the site of the present Kanakadea Hall and fitted up as the building of the Union Free School District. In 1887, the district desiring a new building, sold this peripatetic structure to William C. Burdick, a prominent business man of the village, who moved it to its present location and used it as a hotel. On the death of Mr. Burdick, in 1902, his widow and daughter gave the hall to the university. About the same time the Steinheim came into university ownership.

President Davis was tireless in making contacts with alumni and friends, in urging improvements of various kinds, and in thinking through some large questions of policy for the institution. He effected a clear division between the college and the academy, giving the latter a separate building. He decided that it was no longer possible to depend so largely on the denomination for support of the reviving school, so he began an appeal to a larger clientele. He felt also that the university should not only give the traditional liberal arts education, but that it should reassert others of its own historical tendencies and meet the vocational and professional needs of the day. The training of teachers for secondary schools was inaugurated. Another step toward a renewed emphasis on science and professional training was the building of the Babcock Hall of Physics, which was completed in 1898.

Boothe C. Davis and Expansion, 1900-1918—In 1900, through the efforts of President Davis and Hon. John J. Merrill, '84, the New York State School of Clay-Working and Ceramics was established at Alfred University. In 1908 the New York State School of Agriculture was added. Hon. Peter B. McLennan, '73, a justice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, was most helpful in this latter enterprise. The school of ceramics grew

steadily from the beginning under the able directorship of Dr. Charles F. Binns, a well-known English ceramist and artist, who gave thirty-one years of his life to the school. The School of Agriculture, though suffering several ups and downs, has proved a very useful educational instrument of the State. During this period social regulations were liberalized, physical education and organized intra-mural and intercollegiate athletics took on their modern forms. The liberalization of social life was shown by the introduction of supervised dancing and by the gradual introduction of fraternities and sororities, although these came in their more developed form after the World War. Indicative of the increasing interest in sports, in 1901 an athletic field was purchased where intercollegiate and other games could be held more conveniently than had before been the case. In the new Hall of Physics, a gymnasium was provided which, while small, was better than anything previously possessed. New buildings came in rapid succession; those to house the School of Ceramics and the School of Agriculture were provided by the State, the Green Block and a Carnegie Library in 1912-13, the central heating plant in 1917-18. The grammar school building suffered a serious fire (1907) and was traded to the university for a lot on Park Street, where a new public school building was erected. The damaged building was rebuilt and named Kanakadea Hall.

When the World War came Alfred University offered all its facilities to the government, and became the site of one of the Student Army Training Corps programs. The "Brick" was turned into a barracks. Courses were organized to meet the government's requirements and in every way the university supported the war program. Hundreds of its alumni and students went into the service. Its ordinary registration naturally suffered from war conditions. However, on the whole the work of the institution was kept up to high standards during the war period, although the obtaining of adequate personnel to fill vacancies in the staff was not easy.

Davis and More Expansion, 1918-1933—After the World War the expansion of Alfred University under the great Davis continued. In rapid succession came the Allen Laboratory; the Heins Memorial Grandstand; the Campus Gateway; the Clawson Infirmary; the remodeled Alumni Hall; the Track and Field House on Pine Street, used as a gymnasium; the Susan Howell Social Hall; the Bartlett Memorial Dormitory; the remodeling of the "Brick," seriously damaged by fire; and the new building of the New York State College of

Ceramics. Accompanying this physical expansion came extension of academic facilities in the subdivision of departments, like the separation of economics from the department of history and political science; the subdivision in administrative functions; the further evolution of the deanships; the coming of the plant manager; a reorganized alumni association; increased treasurer's office staff; the office of the director of finance; the chaplaincy and directorship of religious activities; and the position of university engineer. In 1921 the university was admitted to membership in the Association of American Colleges and the following year won the full approval of the Association of American Universities, the highest accrediting authority in the United States in that field. The university was placed upon a firmer financial foundation by the success of the million dollar campaign culminating in December, 1930. At the commencement in June, 1933, came the celebration of the thirty-eight successful years of President Boothe C. Davis' administration. He retired and with Mrs. Davis spent much time thereafter at his beloved winter home in Holly Hill, Florida. Needless to say that Doctor and Mrs. Davis carried with them the gratitude, admiration and love of all students, alumni and friends of the university. Mrs. Davis died March 15, 1939.

Entering Alfred's Second Century—President Davis, now President Emeritus Davis, was succeeded by his brilliant pupil, Dr. Paul Emerson Titsworth, for ten years the successful and energetic president of Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland. Prior to accepting the Washington College presidency, Doctor Titsworth had been successively professor of modern languages and professor of English at Alfred. In 1920 he became dean of the College of Liberal Arts, thus showing a record of close association with the *alma mater* to which he was now recalled as president. His career as president was brief. Inaugurated at the first ceremony of the kind ever held at the university, October 20, 1933, he died suddenly on December 10, 1933. Many hopes and expectations died with Doctor Titsworth. He was succeeded by Dr. J. Nelson Norwood, another alumnus and member of the faculty, who was first made acting president, in which capacity he finished the academic year and was elected president June 11, 1934. The great depression was now making itself manifest in the life of the university. Strictest economy was necessary to make both ends meet. Reduced income from endowments and the necessity of granting credit to many students created serious financial problems. In 1934 the new and beautiful Hall of Physics was completed.



(Courtesy of Alfred University)

ALFRED UNIVERSITY—ALLEN STEINHEIM MUSEUM

Built in 1879, it is the second oldest college science museum building in the United States.

adding greatly to the facilities of the university. The old Hall of Physics had burned in 1929. Immediately following the fire a shop building had been erected a little west of the hall site.

In 1934 certain reorganizations in the deanships were made by which there was created a dean of the College of Liberal Arts, paralleling the dean of the newly named College of Ceramics, and the dean of men and dean of women, whose functions extended to both colleges. In 1936 came the great centennial celebration, which reviewed the changes that had come in this little village and in this institution since that far away day when Bethuel C. Church taught the first select school. The celebration consisted of a great dinner meeting of alumni, of class reunions and breakfasts, and a special centennial convocation when President Dixon Ryan Fox, of Union College, mother of Alfred University, gave the principal address. On commencement day, when the largest class in the history of the institution received degrees, the address was given by Hon. Frances Perkins, United States Secretary of Labor. The culmination came in the vast centennial pageant, when some three thousand guests witnessed the passing in vivid panorama the events and circumstances of one hundred years. In 1937 the Davis Memorial Carillon was acquired, a unique instrument of thirty-five ancient bells cast by the three most famous bell founders of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The intensification of academic work, the continued raising of academic standards, the physical and academic self-surveys were also a part of the program of these later days. The university sponsored a number of emergency collegiate centers financed by Federal funds and opened as depression institutions for unemployed teachers and impecunious students, 1934-37. The National Youth Administration brought financial aid to needy students on the campus.

Thus we come to the present (1939) with Alfred University, in its broadest sense, consisting of four parts variously related to the original corporation under the charter. There is the College of Liberal Arts with its recently reorganized and modernized curriculum; its Department of Education undergoing expansion to meet the new needs of the teaching profession; its Department of Business and Secretarial Studies now being organized; and its searching self-survey revealing strong and weak spots in its general training and its preprofessional offerings. There is the New York State College of Ceramics with its recently revised curriculum in ceramic engineering, its unique glass technology courses, its industrial ceramic art, and its fruitful Ceramic Experiment Station. Then there is the New York State School of Agriculture with its expanded courses in agriculture,

and its new courses in general and technical electricity all on a college level. Last to be mentioned is the School of Theology, newly named and enjoying a revised curriculum and increased staff.

These schools occupy a beautiful campus of over one hundred acres and twenty-one buildings. Eighty teachers make up the faculties. The total plant is valued at about $1,500,000. Endowment accounts for over $1,000,000. The annual budget for all the schools amounts to $650,000. With over three hundred students in each of the two colleges, a small group in theology, and 265 in the School of Agriculture, there is a grand total of over nine hundred in the regular resident enrollment. This figure does not include some fifty in special National Youth Administration projects connected with the School of Agriculture nor the 115 enrolled in the Alfred University Extension School at Jamestown, New York.

Here, then, is the century-long story of seed-sowing, of self-sacrificing service, resulting in the present facilities in higher education in this widely known valley of southwestern New York.

CHAPTER LXI

The New York State College of Ceramics

By Dean M. E. Holmes

With prophetic vision of the prominent position that ceramic education was destined to achieve in the professional and industrial life of the Nation, Boothe C. Davis and John J. Merrill established at Alfred University in 1900 the New York State School of Clay Working and Ceramics. With another ceramic school that was just getting under way at that time, it became the function of the institution to pioneer in the field of ceramic education, leading the way to what is now a Nation-wide scope of university education in ceramics, firmly established as an essential part of higher education.

The growth and development of the school under the direction of Charles Fergus Binns, exemplifies the extent to which these functions were fulfilled. He served as its director from the time of its founding until 1931, when age necessitated his retirement. Year by year the enrollment increased from five in 1900 to 169 in 1931. The development of the courses of instruction kept pace with the growth of the school so that the needs of the ceramic profession, as they developed from year to year, were served at all times.

During this period of the school's history the institution became a guiding beacon for ceramic education everywhere. The vision of its founders was fully realized. Emphasis was laid upon ceramic art and the school became distinguished particularly for training in the field of fine ceramics.

The year 1932, however, marked a transition in the career of the institution. It is an important matter for prospective students and prospective employers of graduates to note that although no less attention is given to fine ceramics than formerly, the school is now primarily an institution of ceramic technology and engineering, rather than ceramic art. Art is not neglected; but technology and engineering are emphasized.

This changed status of the institution was made possible by large increases in State appropriations which had been planned by the administration. A new building added 24,000 square feet of floor space to the 18,000 square feet formerly available. This building was completely furnished with the most up-to-date equipment. The building and equipment represented a cost of over one-quarter of a million dollars.

The courses of instruction were developed to include all of the most modern phases of scientific instruction in ceramic technology and engineering. Special emphasis was applied to the field of general ceramic technology and engineering; but in keeping with the pioneering faith of its founders, the first and only four-year university course of specialized instruction in glass technology was added to the other curricula of the college. These developments rounded out the facilities of the college for the education of students in the art, technology and engineering branches of the ceramic profession, but there remained the need of facilities for research and development work. This need was filled in 1936 by the establishment of a Department of Research or Ceramic Experiment Station, thereby making it possible to render a research service to the ceramic industries of the State as well as to educate students.

Keeping pace with these major developments were the improvements in library facilities, the expansion of non-curricular student activities and the development of contact with the ceramic industries. The faculty was enlarged by the addition to it of distinguished specialists in their various fields. The administrative, teaching and research staff, exclusive of part-time employees, now numbers fourteen. This development program yielded an immediate response in student enrollment. The enrollment increased nearly 100 per cent. in three years, and taxed the capacity of the enlarged plant to the limit. Applications for admission are now rejected in sufficient numbers to keep the enrollment at 330.

As an indication of the changed status of the institution, the State authorities raised its ranking from that of a school to that of a college, and it is now known as the New York State College of Ceramics. As such, it stands accredited by the Engineers' Council for Professional Development for the training of professional engineers.

Objectives—The objectives of the college were stated in the legislative act which provided for its establishment. Chapter 383 of the Laws of New York of 1900 states that the purpose of the institution

is "to give scientific, technical, art and practical training for the manufacture of all kinds of ceramic products and to conduct experiments in reference to the value for commercial purposes of clays and shales of New York State." When allowance is made for the fact that, in 1900, the authors of this law had nothing other than their vision of the future to guide them, it must be admitted that this is a satisfactory enough statement of the natural and logical functions of a college of this kind. The same thought can now quite adequately and more specifically be expressed by the statement that the purposes of the college are to give students a ceramic education and to do ceramic research and development work. These are the established objectives of the college. Furthermore, it undertakes to give the students the most complete and up-to-date training possible and to render to the ceramic industries of the State the most effective research and development work that can be rendered.

Policies—These objectives and ideals determine the administrative policies of the college. Experience has demonstrated that teaching of technical and engineering subjects is not adequately vitalized unless it is done in a research environment. Students must be brought into contact with experienced workers who are broadening the frontiers of knowledge. The research department of the college supplies the environment. Furthermore, it renders the more tangible service of contributing to the improvement of ceramic products and the cheapening of manufacturing operations. In this capacity it serves the public, the consumer, and the producer of ceramic products. Fundamental scientific research is done and contributions to the ceramic literature are constantly being made in the form of books, bulletins and articles, but it is the policy of the department to emphasize applied research in the interest of the industries.

In order to keep the work directed along the most effective and practical lines, the ceramic industries were organized into an association known as the Ceramic Association of New York. Through its board of directors, the dean is kept advised of the best thoughts and suggestions of the leading ceramic industrialists of the State and the research work is directed accordingly.

However important may be its research and development work, the main function of the college must always be the education of young men and women for the ceramic professions. This is an age of specialization. Ceramics as a whole is a specialized branch of technology, but the ceramic profession requires specializations within its own field.

Ceramic artists, ceramic technologists, and ceramic engineers are required. Furthermore, they must have a thorough and up-to-date training in their respective fields. The day is past when key positions are filled by faithful workers rising from the ranks. The ceramic industry is now one of high technical, art and engineering status. A four-year university course of instruction of high order consisting of a thorough grounding in fundamentals, followed by specialized application of these fundamentals, is required adequately to prepare one for the responsible positions. This implies modern and up-to-date equipment, a competent staff and curricula that meet with general approval. It is the policy of the college to supply these essentials in a way that will fully meet the industrial requirements of the times.

Students come to this institution primarily to prepare themselves for a career in the ceramic profession. Therefore, the development of the highest possible degree of professional ability on the part of its graduates is the main duty of the institution. Ability to serve is the keynote of the training.

It is recognized, however, that something more than professional training is required to prepare one for the highest degree of professional service. Character and personality must be developed. Success in the ceramic profession implies good citizenship. It is fortunate that a technical education is in itself one of the most effective in developing character and the capacity for good citizenship. But professional training would not thrive in an environment which is exclusively professional in character. Non-curricular activities are, therefore, provided which occupy an important although secondary position in the educational policy.

Physical education and athletic sports supply the need for the development of health as well as the more tangible thing called "college spirit." The cultural development that comes from the professional training itself is enhanced by the inclusion of certain liberal arts courses in the curricula and by lectures, plays and musical entertainment provided by the University Forum. Opportunities for the development of art appreciation are afforded by art exhibits, and participation in the university musical organizations, and dramatic societies. The social instincts are fostered by life in the dormitories, clubs, fraternities and sororities, as well as by the numerous private and all-college social functions. Most important of these all-college social functions are the formal interfraternity ball and St. Patrick's ball. Journalistic activities in connection with the student publications is

another divertisement. Special emphasis is placed upon the development of the ability for team work and the maintenance of a high degree of student *esprit de corps*. This is done by organizations managed exclusively by the students. Most important of these are the Ceramic Guild for the art students and the Student Branch of the American Ceramic Society for the technology and engineering students. Full expression of these independent student activities is



BINNS HALL, NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF CERAMICS, ALFRED UNIVERSITY

reached each spring when the birthday of the patron saint of engineers, St. Patrick, is celebrated.

Intimate and friendly contact between faculty and students is provided by a system of student counselling whereby the individual problems of each student receive the personal attention of a member of the faculty. Personality ratings are kept from semester to semester for each student and all possible aid is given him in developing the traits of resourcefulness, originality, industriousness, reliability, honesty, judgment, and coöperativeness.

Rounding out all of these non-curricular activities which have to do with the development of personality and character is the religious life. Although absolutely non-sectarian in character, the institution emphasizes the importance of spiritual development and undertakes to inculcate in the student the desire for Christian living. Daily chapel and weekly church services provide facilities for this purpose.

Although every form of effective help is offered the student in all of his curricular and non-curricular activities, he is never relieved of his own responsibilities. He solves his own problems, but he does so with the aid and coöperation of the faculty. The more brilliant students are not neglected in order to favor the less brilliant ones, nor are the less brilliant students neglected in order to favor the more brilliant ones. Regimentation in all of its aspects is studiously avoided. The principle of equal rights and opportunities for all prevails. Each student knows that regardless of financial, social or intellectual status, he will get what he earns, but that, also, he must earn what he gets.

It is evident that the policy of the institution in general is one of "holoism," whereby the whole individual is developed. This applies to both men and women, as the institution is wholly co-educational in character.

Organization—The college is organized on the basis of four departments, which are: Ceramic Art, General Ceramic Technology and Engineering, Glass Technology, and Research. The head of each of these departments reports to the dean of the college, who in turn reports to the board of managers, of which the president of Alfred University is the chairman. The personnel of the board of managers consists of industrial executives, who represent the various branches of the ceramic industry, and other persons qualified to supervise the operation of the college. In accordance with a legislative statute, the members of the board of managers are appointed annually by the board of trustees of Alfred University, with full power to act for them as the agent of the Education Department of the State of New York. The college, therefore, is a unit of the University of the State of New York operating under the executive supervision of the State Education Department.

Departments of Instruction—A. General Ceramic Technology and Engineering:

A ceramic product is one made out of non-metallic, earthy, raw materials by a firing operation. With the exception of the glass industry, ceramic products are fundamentally similar. It is possible,

therefore, to give students a broad fundamental training in ceramics that fits them for usefulness in all of them, except the glass industry. Although the work of this department is directed primarily toward the clay products, which is the largest of all the ceramic industries, the training is of such a character that the graduate is prepared, also, to enter the Portland cement, lime, gypsum, enamelware, abrasives, and refractories industries. His career in these industries will be determined by his development in the industry along the lines of laboratory research work, plant production work, or sales engineering work. The college training is designed to give him the background on which to build.

In addition to a general cultural development, the department provides first of all for a thorough grounding in the fundamental sciences of mathematics, chemistry and physics. Most of the first two years' work is devoted to these subjects. The last two years of the course are devoted primarily to the application of these fundamental sciences to the technical and engineering problems of the ceramic industries.

Graduates of this department receive the degree of Bachelor of Science (B. S.).

B. Department of Glass Technology:

These courses, together with the mathematical, scientific and cultural courses of the entire curriculum "B," should prepare the graduate for immediate usefulness in the glass industry. They are also presented as a foundation for research work in glass and allied fields of silicate technology.

Through his laboratory work the student becomes familiar with the operation and control of furnaces, with melting and annealing practice, and with the behavior of glass as a material for fabrication. However, no attempt is made to teach glassworking.

In addition to these undergraduate courses, the department offers an opportunity for research work on glass problems by those who have adequate preparation, either in schools or in plant practice. Glass manufacturers who desire to give their employees further training, or to establish fellowships for work upon their special problems, are offered the facilities of the laboratories.

Graduates of this department receive the degree of Bachelor of Science (B. S.).

C. Department of Ceramic Art:

The course of study in Ceramic Art provides for the training of specialized designers for the ceramic industries.

For the first two years the student concentrates on the fundamentals of drawing, design, modeling, perspective, lettering and architectural drafting.

In his junior year he enters the shops and laboratories, where he begins the study of ceramic materials and processes; the development of bodies, glazes and colors; and the shaping and burning of ceramic wares. He experiments with various decorative processes and their adaptation to the production limitations of industry. The equipment and facilities of a modern pottery are placed at his disposal so that he may prove the practical value of his designs by expressing them in the finished product.

The college reserves the right to retain ware, drawings, and designs made by students.

Graduates receive the degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts (B. F. A.).

D. Department of Research:

The Department of Research, also known as the Ceramic Experiment Station, is the medium by which the New York State College of Ceramics renders research service to the producers and users of ceramic products in the State of New York. In this capacity it functions as do the agricultural schools in serving the agricultural interests of the State. Research and development work on ceramic products and processes result in new and better products and more efficient and cheaper processes. The public benefits by better and cheaper products; the manufacturer gets the benefit of more efficient operations; labor benefits by more remunerative employment and better working conditions.

These results are achieved by an intensive research and development program carried on by a staff of research experts. The initial phases of these investigations are usually carried out in the laboratory. When possible this is followed by development work in the plants whereby the developments are proven and adjusted to industrial conditions. Through the coöperation of the Ceramic Association of New York, whose board of directors acts as an advisory committee, the experiment station gets the advice of the leading ceramic industrialists of the State and the active coöperation of the individual companies. The scope of the work of the department covers the entire field of ceramics, including heavy clay products, refractories, enamelware, glass, whiteware, abrasives, gypsum, lime and cement.

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Lyle Perkins—Student Assistant.

CHAPTER LXII

Houghton College

By Frieda A. Gillette

The establishment of an educational institution for the Wesleyan Methodist Church had been a dream of many church leaders, but the dream did not begin to take form until the year 1882, when the Rev. D. S. Kinney, general agent of the denomination, and the Rev. Willard J. Houghton were in attendance at the dedication of a Wesleyan Methodist Church at Short Tract, New York. There plans were made for the immediate initiation of the project.

Because Willard J. Houghton became the leader of the movement to establish such a school and therefore its founder, no account of Houghton Seminary would be complete without a tribute to this man of vision. Born at Houghton in a house situated on what is now the college campus, Willard J. Houghton spent his early life there and received the only education which it was his privilege to enjoy. The regret he felt for his own limited opportunities filled him with a great longing to help young people to get an education. His ideal for a school at Houghton was one where the standards for both conduct and scholarship would be high, but where expenses would be kept at a minimum.

The first subscription for Houghton Seminary was taken at the Houghton Church, February 3, 1883, and after a month's solicitation in the village and vicinity, one thousand dollars had been pledged. Ground for the school was given by Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Tucker, of Houghton, a plot of eleven acres, situated on a hill about one-half mile south of the present campus.

Something of the struggle of such an undertaking can be gathered from Mr. Houghton's own account written in a ledger in which he kept a list of the pledges made and the money paid toward the project. The account reads as follows:

Reverend D. S. Kinney, then Agent of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection, in the night following the dedication of the Wesleyan Methodist Church at Short Tract, Allegany County, New York, in the month of October, 1882, stated to me that we as a denomination very much needed a school in Western New York, as it would be a central place where we as a church could school our children away from the environments of the large towns and cities. He said that Houghton would be a good place as it was free from the evils of the larger towns and cities. He also said that if I would take hold of the work, he would do all that he could to put an endowment on it so as to make it easy for the poor, and an object for our people to send those children from a distance to their own Christian school. After much prayer and consultation with D. S. Kinney, Rev. N. Wardner, then Editor of the "Wesleyan Methodist," and also with the Lockport Conference in the bounds of which the Seminary is located, and the church and friends of Christian education at Houghton, all agreed to stand by and help on the work.

On February 3, 1883, the first subscription was taken in the Houghton Church. After about one month's work by Rev. D. W. Ball, W. J. Houghton, Alonzo Thayer, and John Parker within a radius of five miles of Houghton, our subscription books footed up to about one thousand dollars.

In the month of April, 1883, the petition for the incorporation papers was completed at Eagle Harbor, seat of the Lockport Conference that year, and the following persons were the charter members: W. J. Houghton, D. W. Ball, H. T. Besse, W. Doughty, R. F. Dutcher, J. L. Benton, G. W. Sibley, F. M. Moshier, B. S. Laughlin, B. A. Hammond, E. R. Weaver, and A. Thayer.

The grounds that the Seminary stands on with the eleven acres was the liberal donation of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Tucker. The first money paid in to the Building Fund was by Rev. T. K. Doty, of the Allegheny Conference.

In the month of April, 1883, the ground was broken by Alonzo Thayer, and Rev. D. W. Ball, who had charge of excavating for the foundation and bringing the water to the grounds.

At the Spring Conference, in the year 1883, the subscriptions for Building and Endowment came up to about one thousand five hundred dollars, and the job of building the Houghton Wesleyan Methodist Seminary was let to Mr. Armstrong of Cuba to do the stone and brick work; C. P. Lapham to put on the roof and enclose; and Walter Arnold to do the inside work. The principal men in locating the building on the hill where the building now stands were Reverends N. Wardner, D. S. Kinney, and H. T. Besse.

Time would fail to speak of the many interesting Providences connected in the planting of this school. Heaven seemed to smile upon it from the beginning. Soon after the job was let and the building commenced, there was a financial pressure and crops were blasted so that it was impossible to collect subscriptions that were counted good, and



(Courtesy of Houghton College)

HOUGHTON COLLEGE

in the fall of 1883 it looked dark and as though it must founder. But the Wesleyan Methodist General Conference in session at Syracuse lifted the cloud by a cash subscription of over eight hundred dollars, with subscriptions sufficient to pay when collected.

Rev. W. H. Kennedy was selected as principal; Luther Grange, assistant; Miss Alice Boardman, teacher; Sister Mary Depew to take the oversight of the lady students and to give them weekly lectures; Miss Eva Davis, primary teacher. So the school opened in September, 1884.

After four years and five months hard struggle, we as Agent in collecting money to make improvements on the building and paying debts and teachers, were able in June, 1887, to report to the Board of Trustees that the building was free from debt, and a number thousand of dollars of uncollected subscriptions. From April 12, 1883, to June 15, 1887, all the money, labor, and material, the amount in cash and estimated value of material and labor is set opposite each name in this book. At this time, June 15, 1887, our work as regular Agent ceased. Since this time many have given just as worthy to be credited in carrying on this work and verily, verily, they will have their reward in the world called Heaven. W. J. HOUGHTON.

Although the one brick building erected in 1884 had seemed adequate for the needs of Houghton Seminary, a growing school must have additional buildings. Moreover, the site was not large enough for future expansion. A natural plateau of fifteen acres near the village was purchased from the Rev. Sylvester Bedford and here was ample room for future growth. An administration building and a girls' dormitory were erected and opened for use in 1905.

The catalogue issued for 1905-06 speaks of the Administration Building as a "good, substantial brick edifice" and it remains today much as it was at the time of its construction, save for such changes in the arrangement of rooms as have been necessary to meet the needs of a growing college.

The dormitory had accommodations for sixty women when it was built. However, it has been enlarged until it has rooming accommodations for 140 women and houses the college dining room, which has facilities for 250 persons.

Work on a gymnasium was begun in 1914 and the building was completed and dedicated in 1917. Professor H. C. Bedford, a member of the faculty at Houghton, had seen the possibility of utilizing material from the first building, now in disuse, and had also secured much of the money necessary to complete the structure. Therefore, the building was fittingly named Bedford Gymnasium.

Science Hall, containing laboratories and rooms for the high school, was ready for occupancy in the fall of 1923. The library, art

studio, and several class rooms are also in this building at the present time.

A large brick dwelling on the campus was remodeled for a college infirmary in 1928 and was furnished with modern hospital equipment, much of which was the gift of friends of Houghton.

A music building containing offices for the dean of the Music Department, an auditorium for recitals, class and practice rooms, was completed in 1932.

Plans are under way for the construction of a modern administration building and auditorium, to be known as the Luckey Memorial, a gift of the alumni and friends as a fitting tribute to President James S. Luckey.

The following men served as presidents of Houghton Seminary during the period of years indicated:

Rev. W. H. Kennedy.....1884-1886
Rev. A. R. Dodd.....1886-1893
Rev. E. W. Bruce.....1893-1894
James S. Luckey.....1894-1896
Silas W. Bond.....1896-1908

Houghton was fortunate in her leadership, for each one made a valuable contribution in moulding the Christian standards and policies of the seminary during its early years. The trustees of the seminary requested James S. Luckey to return to the presidency of the school in 1908. He had graduated from the seminary in 1889, and for a brief time, as previously indicated, had been its head. His desire for further training led to his resignation in 1896 and since that time he had received the degree of Master in Pedagogy from Albany State Normal in 1898, the degree of Bachelor of Arts from Oberlin in 1904, and the degree of Master of Arts from Harvard in 1908. His plans included another year of work at Harvard, but he put them aside to answer the call of a small and struggling institution, although he said years later: "One of the hardest things I ever had to do in my life was to give up that second year in Harvard." Houghton College became the lengthened shadow of that man. Wheaton College conferred the honorary degree Doctor of Laws upon President Luckey in 1933. His presidency closed with his death, April 7, 1937.

During the illness of President Luckey and until the selection of his successor, the vice-president, Prof. H. LeRoy Fancher, carried on the administrative work of the college, aided by the loyal staff of co-workers.

Stephen W. Paine, who became a member of the Houghton faculty in 1933 and who had become the dean of the college upon the death of Dr. Willard LeVay Fancher, was chosen by the board of trustees of Houghton College as the next president of the institution. His scholastic record is thus set forth in the college catalogue:

Stephen W. Paine, 1933, President of the College; A. B., Wheaton College, 1930; A. M., Illinois, 1931; Ph. D., Illinois, 1933.

President Paine became by this appointment the youngest college president in the United States. His leadership has been outstanding. At the annual commencement in 1939, Wheaton College, his *alma mater,* conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws in recognition of his accomplishments.

The scholastic progress made during the early years of Houghton Seminary may be noted in an early catalogue of the school, which reads as follows:

Elementary and Academic Departments were opened in 1884. Later the Houghton Bible Training Class, which aimed to give theological instruction to those preparing for gospel work, was founded through the efforts of W. J. Houghton. In 1892, this became the Bible Training Department, under the control of the Wesleyan Educational Society. This Society also assumed the management of the Academic Department in June, 1896. At the regular meeting of the Board in June, 1896, Houghton Seminary was raised to college grade, and the Bible Training Department was made the Theological Department and was supplemented in 1905 by an Elementary Theological course. In 1905, the Musical Department was organized and, in 1906, the preparatory work was placed under the State Board of Regents.

Houghton offered, in 1908, a four-year college course to which the term "Advanced Department" was applied, since degrees could not be granted. This presented a challenge to the new president, James S. Luckey, and he determined to obtain recognition at some accredited college for work done in the Advanced Department. If a college could be found that would accept three years of Houghton's credit, a degree might be obtained after one year of work in the other institution. Oberlin College was willing to receive Houghton students under such conditions, if they could prove their worth.

William Frazier, Ralph Rindfusz, Clark Bedford, and Leland Boardman enrolled in Oberlin in 1909 as candidates for the degree, Bachelor of Arts, the degrees to be granted at the following commencement. Houghton had not misjudged the caliber of those whom

she sent to Oberlin and the way was opened for further affiliation and for admittance to other colleges on the same basis.

President Luckey was able to announce in 1913 that "The credits of Houghton Seminary have been received for advanced standing at Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio; Ohio Wesleyan; University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska; and at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan."

The next step in the quest for recognition was to secure the right to grant the degree Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science at the close of four years of work done in Houghton College. The year 1922 seemed propitious for such an advance move. After an interview with the Assistant Commissioner of Higher Education of the State of New York, the late Dr. Augustus S. Downing, a petition for the right to grant such degrees was presented to the Board of Regents of the State of New York. April 7, 1923, a provisional charter was granted and reads as follows:

Provisional Charter of Houghton College

The instrument witnesseth that the Regents of the University of the State of New York have granted this Provisional Charter incorporating Edward G. Deitrich, Rev. Edward Carpenter, Rev. John Willett, Rev. Frank A. Butterfield, Rev. T. P. Baker, L. H. McMillan, Rev. G. L. Densmore, Rev. Chas. Sicard, Fleming Perrine, Rev. A. B. Hotchkiss, C. N. Carnahan, Rev. Walter L. Thompson, O. S. Ballinger, Rev. John Clement, Joe Lawrence, and their successors and associates, as a College of liberal arts and sciences, for the promotion of science, literature, art, history, and other departments of knowledge under the corporate name of Houghton College, to be located in the village of Houghton, Allegany County, and State of New York, with fifteen trustees, to be at first the persons named herein as incorporated, to hold until the next general conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection (or church) of America, to be held in June, 1923, and until their successors shall be elected at such general conferences, to serve for terms of four years each, the election of trustees to be held quadrennially thereafter at the general conference of the said Wesleyan Methodist Connection (or church) of America, with power in them to increase or decrease its membership in such manner and upon such terms as shall be provided for by the general rules of its trustees and with power in them, from time to time, by an unanimous vote of their full board, to fix their terms of office and their number, to be not more than twenty-five nor less than five; and with the provision that this provisional charter will be replaced by an absolute charter, authorizing the college to confer upon its graduates the usual degrees, subject to the restrictions and requirements of the University, if within five years the corporation shall acquire resources and equip-

ment to the value of at least $500,000 available for its use and support and sufficient and suitable for its chartered purposes in the judgment of the Regents of the University and be maintaining an institution of educational usefulness and character satisfactory to them; and that until the granting of the absolute charter suitable degrees of the University of the State of New York will be conferred upon graduates of the college who, in the judgment of the Regents, shall have duly earned the same.

Granted April 7, 1923, by the Regents of the University of the State of New York, executed under their seal and recorded in their office.

FRANK P. GRAVES,
President of the University.

Number 3253.

CHESTER S. LORD, Chancellor.

The first degrees were granted by Houghton College June 10, 1925, to a class of twenty young men and women. This marked a distinct milestone in the history of the college. The gift of the class to their *alma mater* was a monument erected upon the campus at a spot marking the site of Willard J. Houghton's birthplace—a fitting memorial, since it was the one hundredth anniversary of his birth. The inscription reads as follows:

Here Was Located
The House In Which
WILLARD J. HOUGHTON
Was Born July 19, 1825.
The Foundation Stones of This
House Form the Cross in This
Memorial Which Was Erected
By the Class of 1925. The First to
Graduate From Houghton College.

A permanent charter was granted to Houghton College by the University of the State of New York on June 30, 1927. In the meantime, college credit for music courses given at Houghton had been granted by the State Department of Education.

Since the colleges of the United States have been organized into associations, admission into its respective regional association was almost imperative if Houghton were to take her place among the approved educational institutions of the East. Admission depended upon many factors—endowment, equipment and scholarship—and, therefore, effort was made to bring Houghton College to the standard fixed by the association.

Wrote President Luckey in a special bulletin:

On Friday, November 29, 1935, Houghton College was officially placed on the list of accredited colleges by the Middle States Associa-

tion of Colleges. The significance of this achievement is very great. The United States is divided into districts, each having its own association—such as the North Central, the New England, the Southern, etc. The Middle States Association includes the states of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. I understand that reciprocity agreements make memberships in one practically memberships in all.

Membership in the American Council of Education, the Association of American Colleges, and recognition by the American Medical



(Courtesy of Houghton College)

HOUGHTON COLLEGE

Association followed and Houghton College could be said to be a fully accredited institution.

Authorization to grant the honorary degrees of Doctor of Divinity and Doctor of Laws was given July 17, 1936, by the Regents of the University of the State of New York and the first of such degrees were conferred by President James S. Luckey at the Founder's Day Convocation, November 28, 1936. The first Bachelor of Divinity degrees were given in 1939.

The growth of Houghton College has not been phenominal, although there has been an almost continuous increase in numbers.

Records are not available for the first years, but during the school year 1896-97 there were sixty-seven students enrolled in all departments. The year 1902-03 saw an enrollment of 128. The registration in 1911-12 was 183, thirty-seven of whom were in the Advanced Department.

Attendance declined during the World War, but showed an immediate increase in 1919-20, after which time each new step in scholastic recognition brought additional numbers to the college.

The enrollment for 1938-39 was 486 in all departments, 426 of whom were enrolled in the college.

Five members constituted that first faculty of Houghton Seminary in 1884, while today Houghton College has a staff numbering thirty-eight. The last department to be added to those already well established is the Art Department, bringing the total number to five, which are as follows: Liberal Arts, Religious Education, Advanced Theology, Music, and Art. In addition, there is also a high school and Bible school.

The aim of Houghton College as it is stated in her last annual catalogue is:

To give a student a standard education at a minimum expense, with the emphasis placed upon the development of Christian character. Its motto is: High in Standards, Low in Expense, Fundamental in Belief.

From the beginning of its history Houghton has been an avowedly Christian school, and has steadily aimed to place the emphasis on the supreme worth of Christian character.

CHAPTER LXIII

Journalism in Allegany County

By Josephine G. Rickard

From a daily paper, published in the county's leading business center and a member of the Associated Press, to a single sheet, pen-and-ink printed when convenient, runs the gamut of Allegany's news journals. Thirteen village weeklies and two academic papers complete the list.

Political Importance and Affiliations—Politically the papers are quite unevenly divided between the two major parties. The county which claims to be the birthplace of the Republican party and in which a nomination on the Republican ticket is said to be tantamount to election, apparently likes a press agreeable to its convictions, for only two papers announce themselves as Democratic and one of these publishes its policy as "independent, but never neutral."

The heyday of political interest in the local newspaper world came in the 1850s when Horace E. Purdy "beyond question the representative Democratic journalist of Western New York, honest as earnest, able as zealous in the defense of the tenets of his party," and A. N. Cole, "the Father of the Republican Party," "struck blows which conviction alone could nerve the arm to give" and were "both ready and willing to stand where the fight raged the fiercest." After the 1848 split in the Democratic party, Mr. Purdy had become a leader of the "old guard," called the Hunkers, and Mr. Cole the leader of the radicals, called the Free Soil party or Barnburners. In 1852 the shooting distance between the two was not too great, for Mr. Purdy was publishing his "Republican[1] Era" at Oramel and Mr. Cole had launched the "pioneer Republican journal of America," the "Genesee Valley Free Press," at Belfast at the behest of a convention of the Free Democracy party held there in the fall of that year. Only two

1. Not to be confused with current usage of the word.

years later Mr. Cole, to use the words of Francis Curtis, author of the "History of the Republican Party," "called a meeting (a convention he termed it) to meet at Friendship, New York, on May 16, 1854. . . . . On the day named . . . . they held a meeting, organized, adopted the name Republican, and appointed a committee to call a nominating convention later." This nominating convention met at Angelica, October 15, 1854, and county officers were nominated and afterwards elected. Months before, Horace Greeley, in a letter to Mr. Cole, had suggested the name: "Call it Republican, no prefix, no suffix, but plain Republican." Thus did Mr. Cole, one of the best known Alleganians of his day, newspaper man, and political leader earn the right to the epithet which "he assumed and which was generally conferred upon him by the press of the Empire State during the latter part of his life and at his death."

Among other newspaper men of political conviction and importance should be mentioned Frank G. Stebbins, founder of the "Cuba True Patriot" (1862) who, "being an uncompromising Republican" and an "enthusiastic supporter of the Union," his paper "never bolted a party issue and was considered by the leaders of the Republican party to be a paper that they could rely on and support." Charles M. Beecher of the Cuba "Free Press" supported Horace Greeley for President of the United States in 1872,[2] and the "Wellsville Times" is said to have come into being as an opposition Republican paper.

The "Allegany County Democrat," founded as "an exponent of democracy," has been the outstanding voice of its party in the county. Particularly was William W. Nichols, who bought the paper in 1874, fearless and aggressive in stating Democratic convictions.

According to editorial comment in the first number of the Andover "Advertiser and Free Press," published May 14, 1874, that paper stood for Republican principles, defense of the public school system, economy in government, and "no sectarian aid [for the newspaper] from the state, government, or any other source." It used the slogan "free and unshackled" and announced: "We have made arrangements with several of the best writers in this Congressional District to furnish us correspondence on the leading issues of the day."

The Alfred "Sun," the Whitesville "News," the Rushford "Spectator," the Bolivar "Breeze," and the Andover "News" have all shifted political affiliations, the first four from independent to Republi-

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2. Greeley had shifted political affiliation and ran as candidate for the Liberal Republicans and Democrats against Grant, regular Republican.

can and the last from independent to Republican, to Progressive (1912-14), to Democratic.

Since the metropolitan dailies enter almost every home today, the scope of the village paper is felt to be properly community and county. Some papers adopted this policy early. For instance, W. F. Benjamin stressed local and county news in his Rushford "Spectator" in 1885, and the Bolivar "Breeze" declared in 1896: "The paper does not dabble in politics, is independent, and aims to excel as a local and county newspaper." In contrast, the first issue of Purdy's "Republican Era" in 1846 carried no home news except advertisements, but Albany and Washington news was there and some information about the Mexican War then being fought; and the "Andover Advertiser" of June 10, 1869, declared: "We will endeavor to give all the news of the week, both foreign and home."

Some of the county newspaper men are important journalistically; some because of public position and interests. Under the first heading may be mentioned H. C. Scott, inveterate founder of newspapers, among them: the Canaseraga "Times" (1873), the Angelica "Advertiser" (? Republican) (1877), the Hume "Enterprise" (date unknown), the Fillmore "Enterprise" (1882), and possibly a paper in Belfast in 1888, for on May 11 of that year the Northern Allegany "Observer" declares: "Mr. H. C. Scott . . . . will move his printing material to Belfast and establish a new paper."

Judson L. Howden of the Northern Allegany "Observer" seems to be "father" of newspaper men. In 1885 he went to Rushford and taught W. F. Benjamin how to set type and run a paper. He initiated Russell E. Peirson of the Belmont "Dispatch" in the art of printing, and inspired his son, Melvine P. Howden, to follow the newspaper game.

John P. Herrick, founder of the Bolivar "Breeze" and its editor from 1891 until 1911, wrote a history of Allegany journalism of the earlier days. Three of his brothers were, or are, journalists: Frank, now proprietor of the "Breeze"; Charles, now of the Oswayo Valley "Mail" (published at Shinglehouse, Pennsylvania); and Orrin, formerly of the Hazel Hurst (Pennsylvania) "World," now deceased. John came to Bolivar from the Ceres "Mail."

Frank A. Crumb, of the Alfred "Sun," leads all country publishers, past or present, in length of newspaper service. On February 12, 1939, he celebrated his sixty-second year as a printer and publisher. Russell E. Peirson, of Belmont, is now second in length of service, with forty years to his credit.

Elmer E. Conrath, of the Cuba "Patriot" and "Free Press," served two terms as president of the New York Press Association and also represented the rural press of America at the International Congress of Journalists in Geneva in 1926. Walter J. Beecher, of the Cuba "Patriot" (in the 1880s), later became successful editor of the "Normal Instructor," published at Dansville, New York.

The following newspaper persons are of importance because of their positions or interests: A. N. Cole, of the Genesee Valley "Free Press," political contender, was also founder of the "New Agriculture," about which he published a book. The Genesee Valley "Farmer," edited by his son, Asher P. Cole, constituted one page of his "Free Press" during its Belmont days. At one time he contributed a widely read column on various subjects to the Elmira "Advertiser," a column which he called "The Easy Chair." Asher P. Cole became Customs Inspector at New York.

Enos W. Barnes, founder of the Wellsville "Daily Reporter," and the first of three generations to conduct that paper and the Allegany County "Reporter," its weekly counterpart, held various public offices, such as assistant assessor and Deputy Collector of United States Internal Revenue, United States Pension Examiner, and one of three prison labor reform commissioners of New York State.

W. J. Glenn, of the Cuba "Patriot," at the time Republican leader in Allegany County and the Congressional district in which it is located —held the office in Washington of Doorkeeper of the House of Representatives between 1893-1902. This position controlled much valuable patronage.

Byron R. Newton, local editor of the "Free Press" in its later Wellsville days (1880s), became Assistant Secretary of the Treasury of the United States. A printer on the "Free Press" was George Howe, the father of Wellsville's greatest benefactor, David A. Howe, who gave to that village the finest free public library of any village in America and amply endowed it to assure its generous maintenance and its conduct as a cultural center.

This sketch would not be complete without mention of the "personalities." Frank G. Stebbins, of the Cuba "True Patriot," brilliant, witty, and erratic, who illustrated his pages with his own wood cuts and wrote rural verses in the style of the "Bigelow Papers," is remembered for such acts as resigning as Consul to Manila in a profane cablegram to Washington, when on arriving at his post he was greeted with an earthquake. He died at the age of forty-six, and according to his request, the band played "Marching Through Georgia" for his

funeral procession. William W. Nichols, of the Allegany County "Democrat," is pictured as having lost his first newspaper job because of a "love of humor and the ridiculous side of life."

It is no wonder that Guy Comfort, of the Perry "Herald," called Glenn J. Robbins, of the Whitesville "News," the "busiest editor in the world." He has been active in fraternal organizations, president of the official board of the Methodist Church, organist of the church for two years, assistant Boy Scout leader, and town clerk and secretary of the board of education for six years each. Mr. Comfort's epithet traveled by means of the Associated Press all over the United States and eventually into Europe, with the result that a gentleman in Berlin requested Mr. Robbins to publish a novel for him dealing with sensational historical documents. "Such is fame," Mr. Comfort commented.

Word of the busyness of the other editors may not have traveled as far, but as a whole, men in the newspaper game are alive to public interests and are usually found in some local office or place of leadership. Frank A. Crumb, of the Alfred "Sun," has been supervisor or town clerk since 1894, with the exception of two years. He has also been president of the church and counselor of the Boy Scouts. Frank W. LeClere, of the Friendship "Register," spent fifteen years as executive secretary of social service organizations—two of them in the Allegany County Department of Public Health—before being lured back into the family profession, newspaper work. Carl N. Marshall, of the Allegany County "Democrat," is postmaster of Wellsville. The late J. Harvey Backus, of the Andover "News," had been president of the chamber of commerce, town clerk, and election commissioner of Allegany County.

The sources of the semi-tabulated reviews which follow these introductory paragraphs are: The two former histories of Allegany County (one published in 1879 and the other in 1896); two village histories; newspaper files; present (1939) editors, some of whom very graciously wrote the stories of their own papers; and Lewis H. Thornton, of Wellsville. Since news files are not available against which to check all data taken from early histories, there may be errors and confusions. Because of the movement of papers and newspapermen from village to village, there are some overlappings and repetitions, inasmuch as the organization of this material is by villages. There are certain repetitions in the tabulations, of matter outlined in

the introduction, mainly concerned with personalities, which are deliberate; the reason being that the writer of this article feels that in so doing two classes of possible readers may be served—those who wish to scan hastily the story of journalism in Allegany County, and those who seek fuller information about village publications.

Alfred—Present publication: The Alfred "Sun." Editor: Frank A. Crumb. Publisher: Sun Publishing Company. Size: Eight pages, six columns, twenty inches. Political affiliation: Republican. Circulation: One thousand.

Frank A. Crumb, editor of the Alfred "Sun," leads all Allegany County publishers, present or past, in length of active newspaper service. On February 12, 1939, he "celebrated his 62nd year as printer and publisher by writing copy, setting heads and advertisements, and performing the other duties necessary for the production of his newsy weekly newspaper." (Salamanca "Inquirer.") He entered the newspaper trade at the age of fourteen. During the fifty-five years the "Sun" has been published, Mr. Crumb has been associated with it, except for two years, when L. E. Livermore conducted it.

Mr. Crumb has been more than a journalist. He has been public servant as well, serving his town as supervisor and as town clerk, his church as its president, and the youth of the community as counselor for the Boy Scouts. One or the other of the two township positions he has held continuously since 1894, except for two years.

The history of the "Sun" follows: In the year 1883 Frank A. Crumb, Bert Sherman, L. W. Niles, John P. Mosher, and John M. Mosher, all employees of the American Sabbath Tract Publishing House, created a stock company and launched the paper on January 1, 1884, with John M. Mosher as editor, and John P. Mosher as business manager. Between 1884 and the present time (1939) five men appear as editors, Mr. Mosher acting twice and Mr. Crumb four times. The list follows: 1884-85, John M. Mosher; 1885-90, Frank A. Crumb and L. W. Niles, successively; 1890-92, Rev. L. E. Livermore; 1892-95, John M. Mosher and Frank A. Crumb (in 1896 Mr. Mosher left Alfred to buy the Andover "News"); 1896-1907, Frank A. Crumb and Frank S. Whitford; since 1907, Frank A. Crumb.

Likewise in the ownership of the publication a number of names figure. It continued for one year under the management of the stock company, above mentioned, which began it. In 1885 it was taken over by Frank A. Crumb and L. W. Niles; in 1890 by Rev. L. E. Livermore; in 1892 by a stock company consisting mostly of young

men of Alfred, Frank A. Crumb, Etta M. Crumb, D. Sherman Burdick, John J. Merrill, Howard S. Langworthy, and Lyle Bennehoff, which is the same as it is today, except for Mr. Bennehoff. The greatest change in policy came in 1892, when the new stock company made the paper Republican instead of independent. The greatest change in physical plant came in 1895, when the stockholders purchased job office equipment and moved into the building known as the Publishing House. Today the Sun Publishing Company handles most of the printing of Alfred University and does a great deal of other job work. It is one of the best equipped plants in the county.

Two distinctive things about the paper today are that it accepts no liquor or tobacco advertisements and that it uses the "rocket" head, the only newspaper in the East to do so. This type of head is grammatically a unit with the beginning of the lead, three lines being set in twelve point blackface for the first step, and four in eight point blackface for the second step. The "Sun" runs a department edited by the local high school and one by the Agriculture Department and the College of Liberal Arts and Ceramics of the university. To avoid missing an issue the paper has twice been set and run by hand, when electricity was not available because of flood and storm.

The only other newspapers printed in Alfred (except for those connected with the university) were the "New Era," begun in 1859 when Messrs. J. E. B. and William P. Maxson established the first printing office there; and the "Arena," said to have been issued from the office of E. S. Bliss for a short time in 1889, devoted to the interests of the Farmers' Alliance.

Andover—Present publication The Andover "News." Editor and publisher: Claire C. Backus. Political affiliation: Democratic. Size: Eight pages, six columns, twenty inches. Circulation: Nine hundred and twenty-five.

The Andover "News" seems to be one of the few papers in the county which have shifted political affiliations. From its beginning on August 31, 1887, until 1899, it was independent; from 1899 until 1912, Republican; from 1912 until 1914, Progressive; and from 1914 until the present time "independent (Democratic), but never neutral."

Hamilton C. Norris and George L. Tucker were the first publishers of the paper, but before August, 1888, Mr. Tucker retired and Mr. Norris continued alone. The next persons known to be in charge were John M. Mosher and Sidney Green, who purchased the "News" in

1896. These men in turn sold out their interest to J. Harvey Backus: Mr. Green sold in February, 1899, and Mr. Mosher sold in 1904. Mr. Backus was sole proprietor until 1916, when he took his son, Claire C. Backus, into partnership. Since the death of Mr. Backus, Sr., on June 5, 1938, Mr. Backus, Jr., alone has been responsible for the clear-cut positions on local and national issues and the stimulation of community patriotism in his "all home set" paper. He gives one page to the local central school for the publication of the student-edited "The Hi-Herald." The paper prides itself on never having missed an issue or a train.

Three papers preceded the "News" in Andover, one of them the largest ever published in the county (in point of size, not number of pages). It was the "Advertiser and Free Press," nine columns wide and twenty-six inches long. This paper, as the name implies, was a combination of two earlier ones, the merger being effected on May 14, 1874. In that issue both serial numbers appear, the "Advertiser's" being Volume VI, Number 21, that of the "Free Press," Volume XXII, Number 9. This would imply that the first began publication late in 1868 and the second early in 1852. No data are available on the "Free Press" before the merger nor on the combined paper after November 19, 1874, the last paper to be found in the files of the Andover Public Library. The "Advertiser" was a Republican paper of eight pages, five columns, approximately twelve by eighteen inches in size, featuring long stories, poetry, humorous paragraphs, and endeavoring "to give all the news of the week, both foreign and home." It was edited by H. S. Barnard. When the papers combined, A. B. Galatian, of Elmira, was added to the staff, and "Mr. Armstrong, of Elmira, secretary of the State Grange," was secured "to edit and control the agriculture department." The last available issue of the combined paper showed Mr. Galatian to be sole editor, and Mr. Barnard and Mr. Galatian publishers.

The Andover "Express" is referred to in the November 11, 1880, issue of the Rushford "Spectator" thus: "The Andover 'Express,' published by S. H. Jennings formerly of the Canisteo 'Times' has made its appearance. It is a 6 column folio and a bright sheet, nothing more than we would expect from the editor of it, however." No other reference to this paper has come to light.

Angelica—Present publication: The Angelica "Advocate." Editor and publisher: L. L. Stillwell. Political Affiliation: Republican. Size: Eight pages, six columns, twenty inches. Circulation: Five hundred.

(Where two names, dates, or spellings are given, they reflect differences found in the two former county histories.)

When Franklin Coudrey issued Volume I, Number 1, of the Allegany "Republican" in October, 1820, journalism in Allegany County was begun. When the "Republican Aegis and Allegany Democrat" appeared in Angelica in 1830 and continued for a short time thereafter, the second paper of the county had run its course. In the approximately 110 intervening years no less than thirteen names, found in four major sequences and in individual sheets, have appeared on Angelica newspapers, and three of them (the "Republican," the "Reporter," and the "Advocate") on different papers, or for successive forms and managements of the same paper.

The first sequence lasted fifty years, from 1820-70, and consisted of the eight papers listed here. (Each of the papers within the series succeeded, or was a continuation of, the preceding one):

1. The Allegany "Republican," published from 1820-32 by Franklin Coudrey. Publication suspended in 1822.

2. The Angelica "Republican," published 1827-32 by Samuel P. Hull.

3. The Angelica "Republican and Farmer's and Mechanic's Press," published in 1832 by B. F. Smead.

4–5. The Allegany "Republican and Internal Improvement Advocate," published 1832-34 or 1836 by Peter Cherry. Mr. Cherry continued the paper for a short time after 1834 or 1836 under the name Angelica "Republican" and Allegany "Whig."

6. The Angelica "Reporter" and Allegany "Republican," published by William Pitt Angel from his purchase of the plant in 1834 or 1836 for a few months or possibly a year.

7. The Angelica "Reporter," published 1835 or 1837 until 1841 by Samuel C. Wilson. From 1841-44 this paper was edited and published by Horace E. Purdy and Charles Horton. From 1844-56 Mr. Horton was the sole proprietor.

8. The Angelica "Reporter and (Angelica) Advocate and Whig" published by Charles Horton 1856 to about 1869, when the paper was purchased by George W. Dickinson, and soon after, 1869 or 1870, moved to Belmont and, in 1874, to Wellsville, where it was consolidated with the "Times." (For these continuations see Belmont and Wellsville.)

The name of this eighth paper introduces us to the second sequence. The name "Whig" was that of a Cuba paper, and "Advocate," that of another Angelica paper. How the combination of names came about was

as follows: The Allegany "Advocate" was founded in Angelica in January, 1842, by Erastus S. Palmer, who published it until at least April, 1849 (a paper of that date, bearing Mr. Palmer's name is extant.) He was followed by Ellroy and Churchill and Peter S. Norris. In 1852 the "Advocate" was united with the Cuba "Whig" and issued as the "Advocate and Whig," and continuing under the "Whig's" proprietors, William H. and Charles M. Beecher. In 1856 it was purchased by Charles Horton, who combined it with his Angelica "Reporter" and published the combination as the Angelica "Reporter and Advocate and Whig."

The third sequence consists of three papers, two by the same name:

1. The Allegany "Advocate," begun in 1868 (or early in 1869, since Volume I, Number 49, is dated December 24, 1869). This paper is said to have run one year and then to have died. But its editor and publisher, Peter S. Norris, was in the Angelica newspaper business again in December, 1871, when he started a new paper.

2. This paper he called the Angelica "Republican" and continued its issue from December 22, 1871, until August, 1875. During the next ten months, or until the plant was destroyed by fire in June, 1876, it was successively the property of two partnerships: that of A. W. Phillips and Company, and that of Clark and McLaughlin.

3. The same year (1876) H. C. Scott, who had started the Canaseraga "Times" in 1873, moved his plant to Angelica and published a paper called the Angelica "Republican." (The 1879 county history declares that the Angelica "Advertiser" was started on April 12, 1877, in a plant moved from Canaseraga. Possibly the explanation is that Mr. Scott founded the paper called the "Republican" or continued the Clark and McLaughlin paper by the same name in 1876 and that he changed the name to "Advertiser" in 1877). However, Mr. Scott sold his paper in 1879 to L. G. Raymond, who continued it under the name "Republican" until at least 1896 (the date given in the second county history.)

The fourth sequence is that to which the present paper belongs:

1. The Angelica "Every Week," begun late in 1885 under the proprietorship of Mrs. M. L. Rumpff, continued until 1901.

2. The Allegany County "Advocate," published 1901-08 by Frank S. Blair.

3. The Angelica "Advocate," published since August 6, 1908, by various editors: 1908-21, Edwin P. Mills; 1921-23, J. G. Lauritsen;

since 1923, L. L. Stillwell, a genial, accommodating person with historical sense and interest.

Whether the Angelica papers have been nine by twelve inch sheets (like the 1869 "Advocate" and the early numbers of "Every Week") or "blanket" papers eight columns wide and twenty-six inches long, or standard size like the present paper, they constitute the voice of the oldest town in Allegany County and until May, 1858, the county seat.

Papers Not Belonging to the Sequences—Other Angelica papers which were born, breathed awhile, and died, include:

1. The "Republican Aegis and Allegany Democrat," 1830.
2. The Allegany "Gazette," printed in Angelica in 1840.
3. The Republican "Era," started in Angelica in 1844 and issued for possibly two years. This may or may not have any connection with the paper of the same name started in Rushford in 1846.
4. The "Political Investigator," published for a short time in 1848.

Belfast—Present publication: The Belfast "Blaze." Editor and publisher: W. Oran Hall. Political affiliation: Independent. Size: Four pages, seven columns, twenty inches. Circulation: Five hundred and fifty.

Belfast is distinguished for being the first location of the Genesee Valley "Free Press," the outspoken defendant of the Free Democracy party, one of the nuclei of the Republican party. The paper was determined upon by a convention of the party held at Belfast in the autumn of 1852 and launched almost immediately by A. N. Cole. After nine issues had been published at intermittent times, the paper was moved to Wellsville and later to Belmont. (Because this paper belongs to different places and because the first editor is denominated the "Father of the Republican Party," the full history will be found in a separate article.)

That H. C. Scott, who founded papers in Hume, Fillmore, Canaseraga, and Angelica planned to found one in Belfast also is evident from a statement in the "Northern Allegany Observer" of May 11, 1888, that "Mr. H. C. Scott . . . . will move his printing material from Fillmore to Belfast and establish a new paper." Whether he did found one is a question. Indeed, in former histories there is no record of a paper in Belfast between 1853 and 1899. However, in the Rushford "Spectator" of February 23, 1882, and again of October 19, 1882, there are news notes from the Belfast "Free Press."

The present paper, the Belfast "Blaze," came into being October 1, 1899, when P. J. Quinn, then Belfast correspondent for the Cuba "Patriot," decided to found a paper in his home village. With the assistance of a printer, C. Chandler Bristol, presses and type were secured. After ten months the editor turned over his part of the enterprise to the printer, and Mr. Bristol became sole proprietor. He continued to publish the paper until June, 1938, when he sold his interest and equipment to W. Oran Hall, formerly composing room foreman on the Cleveland "Plain Dealer." Mr. Hall had also worked on various papers in Indiana, being at one time editor of the Winchester "Democrat." Mr. Bristol, editor and publisher of the "Blaze" throughout most of its history, was at one time youngest editor in the State. At nineteen he was publishing the Harpursville (Broome County) "Budget," which paper he ran for four years.

Belmont—Present publication: The Belmont "Dispatch." Editor and publisher: Russell E. Peirson. Political affiliation: Republican. Size: Eight pages, six columns, twenty inches. Circulation: One thousand one hundred.

With his linotype machine, presses, and other equipment, pleasantly housed on the main street of the village, Russell E. Peirson, editor and publisher of the Belmont "Dispatch," publishes weekly for his eleven hundred subscribers the news of the village and environs of Belmont and of the county seat, with its offices, its bureaus and its court.

The year 1939 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the paper, for the "Dispatch" was launched March 3, 1889, by R. R. Helme, who had been proprietor of the Friendship "Register" until 1888, when he sold the paper to George W. Fries. He was assisted on the "Dispatch" by his son, Frank G. Helme.

During the first years of its existence, the "Dispatch" changed hands a number of times. In November, 1892, it was sold to W. M. Barnum; and in March, 1893, to William E. Smith, of Wellsville, a man who had been county clerk. Within two weeks Mr. Smith sold a half interest to Roger Stillman, of Alfred. In January, 1895, he retired and the firm became G. L. Stillman & Company, with Roger Stillman as editor and publisher. In January, 1898, Mr. Stillman sold the "Dispatch" to Lewis H. Thornton, a man since distinguished in the county as a newspaper publisher, a local and State historian, and an oil producer. Mr. Thornton resigned his position as local editor of the Wellsville "Daily Reporter" to edit and publish the Belmont

paper. In 1903 Mr. Thornton also purchased the Cuba "Patriot." In 1904 he moved to Wellsville because of his entrance into the oil business, but still retained the ownership of both papers. For each he engaged a manager and local editor, Arthur A. Norton holding that position on the "Dispatch." Mr. Thornton, however, continued for many years to direct the policies of the "Dispatch" and to write considerable for its columns. On December 1, 1914, he sold the paper to Russell E. Peirson, the present proprietor.

Mr. Peirson is the second man in the county in length of newspaper service, Frank A. Crumb, of the Alfred "Sun," being the first. His forty years in the printing business have been spent in Fillmore, where he took his apprenticeship under Judson L. Howden, of the "Northern Allegany Observer"; Morristown, New Jersey, on the "Daily Record," and in Geneva, New York, on the "Daily Times." He learned to set type at eight years of age.

In former county histories there are rather casual allusions to other papers in Belmont. The Genesee Valley "Free Press" is said to have been revived by its founder, A. N. Cole, at Belmont, in 1877. Since his plant was purchased from the "Alleganian," there should have been a paper somewhere in Allegany County by that name, but there is no further reference to it. Asher P. Cole, son of Asahel N. Cole, continued the "Free Press," combined with the Genesee Valley "Farmer" (to which one page was devoted), until 1881, when the paper was discontinued. Asher P. Cole later became a United States Customs Inspector at New York.

In 1881, the year of the discontinuance of the "Free Press," the first issue of the Genesee Valley "Post" appeared. It was a Prohibition paper, by James E. Norton, who bought the "Free Press" equipment and engaged Virgil A. Willard as editor. Later the plant was sold to the Post Publishing Company, but Mr. Willard continued as editor. In 1895 the paper was moved to Cuba under the same management, but with John F. Coad as editor. In 1904 Mr. Willard established the Belmont "Currier," a Prohibition weekly, which ceased publication in a few years.

In 1891 the "Alliance Leader" moved from Bolivar and was published in Belmont for a few months, but soon suspended because of financial embarrassment.

The "Spirit of Reform" started in Belmont by Scott and Osencup sometime in the early 'nineties in the interest of the People's party. In 1893 George A. Scott purchased his partner's interest and pub-

lished the paper until 1894, when he sold to Victor Allen, who moved the paper to Richburg in 1895, and later sold it to M. C. Westcott, who was conducting it in 1896.

The "Reporter," published by W. W. Nichols from 1871 through 1873, and moved to Wellsville in 1874.

A "Southern Tier" is attested to by local persons as having been a revival of the "Republican Era" by Horace E. Purdy and ran 1862-1863. Former histories mention a "Southern Tier" in Cuba, but not in Belmont, run for a short time after 1857 by Cyrus Pratt and M. B. Champlain.

Bolivar—Present publication: The Bolivar "Breeze." Editor and publisher: Frank A. Herrick. Political affiliation: Republican: Size: Eight pages, seven columns, twenty inches. Circulation: One thousand and fifty.

The destinies of journalism in Bolivar, "the heart of the Allegany oil field," have been guided by two brothers of a journalistic family: John P. Herrick and Frank A. Herrick. Two other brothers, Charles and Orrin, were also newspaper men; the former still editor of the Oswayo Valley "Mail," published at Shinglehouse, Pennsylvania; the latter, deceased. John P. Herrick retired from the newspaper business in 1911 and entered the insurance and real estate business. He is now an oil producer, with residences in Olean and Los Angeles.

The Bolivar "Breeze" began publication August 29, 1891, with John P. Herrick, previously of the Ceres (Pennsylvania) "Mail," as editor and publisher. In 1911 he retired from the field and his brother, Frank A. Herrick, took over the work and is publishing a well edited, well organized community newspaper. Quite unusually, the "Breeze" is the publication medium for two large central schools. The columns devoted to Bolivar Central School are called "The Sentinel" and those featuring Richburg Central School, "The Purple Quill." The Bolivar print shop boasts the first linotype machine and the first auto-gas engine used in a newspaper office in the county.

There is record of one other paper in the village: the Bolivar "Leader," referred to in a former history of the county as the Bolivar "Sunday Leader," a sprightly, six-column quarto. It was launched in November, 1881, by F. R. Wellington, Andrew Anderson, and Charles White Nash. In 1887, when the oil boom had begun to decline, Mr. Wellington became the sole proprietor. He continued publication until 1890, when the paper was sold to a Populist stock company who

installed C. M. Mason, a rather impractical theorist, as editor, and who changed the name to the "Alliance Leader." In 1891 the "Leader" was moved to Belmont, where publication was continued for a few months, but suspended because of financial embarrassment.

Canaseraga—Present publication: The Canaseraga "Times." Editor: M. R. Burt. Publisher: Burt Printing Service. Size: Eight pages, five columns, tabloid.

The Canaseraga "Times" was first published by H. C. Scott on November 27, 1873. He continued publication until 1877, when he sold the paper to William H. Barnum, he himself removing to Angelica, where he started the Angelica "Advertiser." The "Times" continued under Mr. Barnum's proprietorship until 1885, when he sold it to Frank Miller.

Between 1885 and 1930 the paper was run successively by three persons: a Mr. Miller, a Mr. Chillson, and H. N. Jefferies. The dates of sale are not available, but Mr. Miller was still publishing it in 1896. Between 1930 and 1936, when it came into the hands of Burt Printing Service of Dalton, New York, the paper was sold four times: in 1930 to Ronald Kingston; in 1931 to H. N. Jefferies; a little later to Russell Brewer; and, finally, to William Plank, who did not take active management, but continued under the direction of a Mr. Brewer until the sale to the present owners in 1936.

Mr. Burt, who has published the "Times" since 1936, started in the printing business in 1925 in a very small way and continued to build up the business until he has today one of the best equipped and most modern print shops. He also established a new newspaper known as the Dalton "Reporter," which is also tabloid size.

The Canaseraga "Times" serves the village of Canaseraga and the entire surrounding community, including the hamlet of Swain and other settlements known as Garwoods, South Canaseraga, Gas Springs, East Grove, Slater Creek and Birdsall.

Cuba—Present publication: Cuba "Patriot and Free Press." Editor and publisher: Cassar R. Adams. Political affiliation: Republican. Size: Eight pages, eight columns, twenty inches. Circulation: One thousand two hundred fifty.

The Cuba "True Patriot" was founded by Frank G. Stebbins in 1862. The name was a popular one in war time, but few other newspapers have survived which bore it then. Stebbins was an enthusiastic supporter of the Union and the Republican party, to which the "True

Patriot" has always given allegiance. He illustrated his pages with his own woodcuts and wrote rural verse in the style of the "Bigelow Papers."

Brilliant, witty, and erratic, he is remembered for such acts as resigning as Consul to Manila in a profane cablegram to Washington, when on arriving at his post he was greeted with an earthquake. He died at the age of forty-six, and according to his request, the band played "Marching Through Georgia" for his funeral march.

He had a succession of partners: a man by the name of Burdick in 1862; W. J. Currier, twice between then and 1865; a Mr. Pratt in 1865; C. F. Meloy in 1869; and C. L. Shepherd in 1870. Between 1872 and 1882, the year of Mr. Stebbins' death, the paper was sold three times. Most of this twenty-year period Mr. Stebbins remained with the paper in some editorial capacity and twice he came into sole possession. One sale was to the Cuba Herald Association, in October, 1872. They changed the name to the Cuba "Weekly Herald" and placed it under the editorial management of James A. McKibbin. A second sale was to E. S. Barnard, January 1, 1875, who changed the name back to the "Patriot"; and a third, to Miles A. Davis, in 1880. According to his farewell editorial, Mr. Stebbins had been editor and manager continuously except for one year, the year when James McKibbin conducted it. He was succeeded shortly before his death in 1882 by the firm of W. J. Beecher and W. J. Glenn.

A succession of sales occurred between 1882 and 1893, when it came into possession of W. J. Glenn & Company, who published it until 1902. The sales were: W. J. Beecher sold his interests to W. J. Glenn in January, 1887; Mr. Glenn sold the paper to Stanley C. Swift in April, 1891; Mr. Swift sold it to H. Moulton & Company in July, 1892; and Mr. Moulton sold it back to W. J. Glenn & Company in April, 1893. Though Mr. Glenn published the paper until his death in 1902, Edwin M. Park served as editor for much of the time because Mr. Glenn held the office in Washington of Doorkeeper of the House of Representatives, an office controlling a great deal of valuable patronage. At that time Mr. Glenn was the Republican leader in Allegany County and in his Congressional district. Born in Wellsville he had learned the printer's trade at the plant of the Wellsville "Reporter" and went from there to Cuba along with Walter J. Beecher, another Wellsville boy trained by the "Reporter." Mr. Beecher later became the successful editor of the "Normal Instructor," published at Dansville, New York.

In 1903 Lewis H. Thornton, then owner of the Belmont "Dispatch," bought of the W. J. Glenn estate the Cuba "Patriot" and edited it and published it for one year, when he moved to Wellsville and employed local editors for the paper. In 1905 he sold the plant and newspaper to J. R. Childs, now of Rochester, an editor distinguished for his uprightness and courage in political and public affairs. The names of editors and publishers between 1906—when Mr. Childs ceased work on it, until 1914, when Elmer E. Conrath purchased it—are not available. But in 1909 the Cuba "Free Press" was consolidated with it. This paper had been moved to Cuba from Belmont by the Post Publishing Company (John F. Coad, editor) in 1895 under the name Genesee Valley "Press," previously called the Genesee Valley "Post." From 1903-09 it was edited by Edwin M. Park as the Cuba "Free Press." The claim of this paper to be the successor of A. N. Cole's "Free Press" is that the "Post" purchased the "Free Press" equipment in 1881 and began publication when that paper was discontinued.

Under the editorship of Mr. Conrath, previously editor of daily papers in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, the "Patriot (and Free Press)" became an outstanding country-town paper. While he was its publisher, Mr. Conrath served for two terms as president of the New York Press Association. He also represented the rural press of America at the International Congress of Journalists in Geneva in 1926. Cassar R. Adams, who has been editor and publisher since 1929, has added many special features to the "Patriot." Miss Lena Todd, assistant editor, has given it a literary tone through making it the publication medium of the Cuba Poetry Society and of other local literary talent.

Other Cuba papers of which copies are extant:

1. The Cuba "Advocate," 1839, Isaac Sheldon editor. This paper began October 29, 1838, and continued for several years.

2. The Allegany "Cuban," later Allegany "Whig," 1851-52, W. H. and C. M. Beecher proprietors. The "Whig" was united with the Allegany County "Advocate" of Angelica in 1852, the Beechers continuing the management. In 1856 they sold out to Charles Horton, who united it with the Angelica "Reporter" and published it at Angelica.

3. The "American Banner," 1855-57, Cyrus Pratt and Hatch and Pratt proprietors.

4. The "Southern Tier," 1857, Cyrus Pratt and M. B. Champlain proprietors; successor to the "American Banner."

5. The "New Democratic Era," 1855 or 1856, W. J. Currier editor. Said to have been consolidated with the "Patriot" the same year. (Mentioned in the 1896 history of the county. Not extant.)

6. Cuba "Weekly Herald," 1873-75, J. A. McKibbin, a Democratic interlude to the "Patriot" in 1872 or 1875.

7. The Cuba "Daily News," 1880, C. W. Nash, R. W. Burnett, proprietors.

8. The Cuba "Evening Review" (daily), 1881-82, R. W. Burnett, proprietor.

9. Democratic "Times," 1890-99.

Fillmore—Present publication: "Northern Allegany Observer." Editor and publisher: Melvine P. Howden. Political Affiliation: Republican. Size: Eight pages, five columns, twenty inches. Circulation: Nine hundred fifty.

Three men of enterprise and ambition figure in the history of Fillmore journalism: H. C. Scott, Judson L. Howden, and Melvine P. Howden.

An inveterate founder of newspapers, Mr. Scott saw in the village of Fillmore an opportunity and moved his Hume "Enterprise" to that village from Hume in February, 1882, whereupon he renamed it the Fillmore "Enterprise." Nine years previously (1873) he had founded the Canaseraga "Times." In 1877 he moved his materials to Angelica, where he founded the Angelica "Advertiser." In 1880 he printed the first number of the Hume "Enterprise" and, in 1888, after he had sold "the subscription list and good will" of his Fillmore paper, he moved to Belfast, where he is said to have started another paper. (No specific data on this paper is available.)

The second name connected with Fillmore journalism in point of time, and the first in point of distinguished service, is that of Judson L. Howden who, to use his own words, "started in the printing business with an amateur press as a bedroom printer." Before he came to Fillmore he had published the Eldred (Pennsylvania) "Express," started the Scottsville "Spectator," and worked on papers in Batavia, LeRoy, Geneva, and Rochester. In 1931 the Publishers Association of Allegany County bestowed upon him the title of dean of his profession in the county because of his forty-three years of continuous service.

When Mr. Howden bought the "handful of subscriptions and few cases of type" belonging to the Fillmore "Enterprise" in 1888 and founded the "Northern Allegany Observer," he instituted his policy

of keeping pace in plant efficiency and equipment. According to a note appearing in the Rushford "Spectator" of the day, he purchased "two new presses and new job and news type." At his death in 1932 he was succeeded by his son, Melvine P. Howden, who is maintaining the high standard of country journalism set by his father.

On May 13, 1938, Melvine P. Howden published a sixteen-page feature edition commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the paper. A beautifully printed souvenir, it is a word and pictorial history of Fillmore and surrounding villages and a medium for the expression of civic interest and ideals of future development.

Friendship—Present publication: The Friendship "Register." Editor and publisher: Frank W. LeClere. Political affiliation: Republican. Size: Eight pages, six columns, twenty inches. Present circulation: Seven hundred.

The Friendship "Register" is the oldest business institution in Friendship operating under its original name. Established in the closing month of 1869, it is now in its seventieth year. Of its sixty-nine volumes, forty-seven have been preserved in bound form and may be seen in the "Register" office. Twenty-two volumes either were not preserved in their entirety or were lost or destroyed in a fire that visited the publication office during Mrs. Steenrod's ownership.

Though never forgetting that its chief responsibility is to record the present life of the community and to work for the present and future welfare, the "Register," especially in recent years, has stressed local history. A regular and very popular feature of its weekly issues is the "Do You Remember?" column in which are reprinted items from the files of fifty, thirty-five and twenty years ago. Historical sketches dealing with institutions and events of the past and reminiscences of older residents are also frequent features.

The "Register" gives weekly space during the school year to "The Spy," official publication of the student body of the Friendship Central School, edited by the students. In June, 1937, a special historical and educational edition was published to mark the dedication of the new high school and administration building.

In 1929 the "Register" conducted a campaign to establish Friendship's claim to be the birthplace of the Republican party and took a lead in organizing a celebration on May 16 of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the meeting, held May 16, 1854, in the Friendship Baptist Church (now the Grand Army of the Republic Hall), at which it was voted to organize a new political party and to call it Republican.

The first issue of the "Register" was dated December 30, 1869. Of its editor and publisher, J. J. Barker, little is now known. The earliest copy known to be in existence, Volume I, Number 5, dated January 27, 1870, consists of four pages of four columns each, nine by twelve inches in size. Later in the year it was increased to eight pages of the same size. In the same year L. H. Bailey bought the paper, and in 1871 he sold it to R. R. Helme, who had been local agent of the Erie Railroad, but who had in his earlier life been engaged in newspaper work. Under his editorship, assisted in later years by his son, Frank Helme, the "Register" grew in size and influence.

In 1888 the Helmes sold the paper to George W. Fries in order to launch the "Dispatch" in Belmont. Mr. Fries continued as editor and publisher until 1899, when he sold the paper to Lewis C. Rice, who ran it for two of the five years he edited it under the name Allegany County "Republican." Again under its original name the "Register" was edited and published by F. L. and Anna Steenrod from 1904-1907, when Mr. Steenrod severed his connection with it and it was continued by Mrs. Steenrod until 1916, when it was sold to D. M. and M. H. Todd. In November, 1916, it was again sold, to Charles Raymond Stout, a local boy who had studied journalism at the University of Michigan. Mr. Stout edited the paper until July, 1927, when he sold it to Frank W. LeClere, present editor and publisher. Mr. Stout, in turn, bought the Franklinville "Chronicle-Journal," which he now edits, together with the Rushford "Spectator" and the Machias "Star."

Previous to buying the "Register," Mr. LeClere was for two years the executive secretary of the Allegany County Public Health and Welfare Association and had been engaged in similar work in other parts of the country for the preceding fifteen years. Grandson, nephew, and brother of country editors, he had grown up in the tradition of hard work, infinite detail and community service that characterizes the newspaper profession.

In March, 1937, the "Register" plant was moved from Depot Street to Main Street into more commodious and convenient quarters, and a more modern news press and other equipment installed.

There is record of only one other newspaper in Friendship: the "Chronicle," a Democratic weekly, established February 11, 1880, and published until August, 1881; edited first by Raymond C. Hill and then by J. Welland Hendrick.

Oramel—In 1852 Oramel and Belfast seem to have been the battlefield for two shades of Democratic opinion: Horace E. Purdy, of

the Republican "Era" of Oramel, representing the "Hunkers," and A. N. Cole, of the Genesee Valley "Free Press" of Belfast, the "Free Soil." Mr. Purdy may have brought his paper to Oramel in 1848 when the paper he published by that name in Rushford is said to have been moved. Data on its suspension are not available.

Mr. Purdy was "beyond question the representative Democratic journalist of western New York, honest as earnest, able as zealous in defense of the tenets of his party," according to the 1879 county history.

April 15, 1938, saw the inception of a new idea in the distribution of news and opinions in Oramel. Walter Fox, a newcomer to the community from Washington, District of Columbia, hand-prints one copy of the Oramel "Record," a three-column sheet from fifteen to twenty-five inches long, and hangs it in the post office each week when convenient. It contains State, national, and local news, personal items, original poems, political opinion, cartoons, and local historical data. A seal at the top bears the words: "The peaceful village of Oramel by the Genesee where Neighbors are Friends."

Rushford—Present publication: The Rushford "Spectator." Editor and publisher: C. R. Stout. Political affiliation: Republican. Size: Eight pages, seven columns, twenty inches. Circulation: Six hundred fifty.

That Horace E. Purdy started the "Republican Era" in Rushford rather than in Oramel, contrary to statements in the 1879 history of Allegany County, is authenticated by the January 13, 1847, issue of the paper whose imprint states: "'Republican Era,' published every Wednesday morning at Rushford by H. E. Purdy . . . . office on Main Street, second story of Gordon's Block." Since this copy is numbered Volume I, Number 26, the first issue—if there were no omissions—should have been July 17, 1846. When he started the paper Mr. Purdy is said to have set up the first printing press in Rushford, and to have been assisted in the venture by A. P. Laning. He emphasized State, national, and foreign news almost to the exclusion of local affairs.

In 1848 the "Era" was apparently moved from Rushford, but whether to Oramel or Angelica is a question. "Rushford and Rushford People," by Helen White Gilbert (1910) is the authority for Angelica. The 1879 county history discusses Mr. Purdy at length as an Oramel journalist, in 1852 editorially in conflict with A. N.

Cole, editor of the "Genesee Valley Free Press," then of Belfast, later of Wellsville. Then, too, since both the Angelica "Reporter" and the Allegany "Advocate" were being published in Angelica in 1848, it hardly seems logical that Mr. Purdy would have taken a third paper there.

Rushford's second paper, the "Weekly News Letter," apparently featured advertisements, village news, correspondence, and broad personal humor. Local items of the first issue consisted of concise statements of two marriages and two deaths. The paper carried nearby train and mail schedules.

For some years after the discontinuance of the "News Letter" (date not available), Rushford was without a paper. But in 1878 Frank B. Smith started the Rushford "Spectator," formerly the "Wyoming Valley Era," a local paper, politically independent. On February 19, 1885, the first issue under the editorship of W. F. Benjamin appeared. Mr. Benjamin had purchased the paper and set out to learn the printing trade under Judson L. Howden, of Fillmore, who came to Rushford to assist him. He filled his pages with local and county news, was Republican in political affiliation, and stressed accuracy to the point of holding items for verification, "a week if necessary." Through his horse and buggy (sometimes horseback) campaigns for subscribers, he built up the list at one time to 2,650.

January 4, 1912, was the date of the first issue under the new management of A. P. Benjamin, who continued until 1916, when Harlan Woods became editor and publisher. From 1917 until 1920 the paper was suspended because Mr. Woods was drafted into the army, and Rushford was journalistically served by the Cuba "Patriot." Publication was resumed in 1920 until 1926 at Rushford by Harlan Woods and then, at Franklinville in Cattaraugus County, where it is now printed at the office of the "Chronicle-Journal," under the management of C. R. Stout.

The "Spectator" has varied in size from four to eight pages, from six to eight columns, and from twenty to twenty-four inches in length.

Wellsville—Present publications: 1. The Wellsville "Daily Reporter." 2. The Allegany County "Democrat." Editors and publishers: 1. Editor and manager, E. Willard Barnes; publishers, E. Willard Barnes, Mrs. Lillian Lee Barnes. 2. Editor, Louis W. Miinte; business manager, Laurence J. Pflager; publisher, Carl N. Marshall. Political affiliations: 1. Republican. 2. Democratic. Size: 1. Six pages, seven columns, twenty-one inches. 2. Sixteen

pages, five columns, tabloid. Circulation: 1. Three thousand three hundred. 2. Two thousand two hundred fifty.

1. The Wellsville "Daily Reporter," Allegany County's only daily newspaper at the present time, was established on November 1, 1880,



(Courtesy of the Wellsville Daily Reporter)

PRESENT WELLSVILLE DAILY REPORTER BUILDING, ERECTED IN 1881

by Enos W. Barnes, grandfather of the present editor and manager, E. Willard Barnes, who together with his mother, Mrs. Lillian Lee Barnes, are the present publishers of the paper.

The first issue of the "Daily Reporter" consisted of four pages, eight by eleven inches in size, on the second page of which was an

announcement by its editor from which we quote: "The 'Daily Reporter' makes its bow to the public. Wellsville, the chief business center of Allegany County, demands and is entitled to the recognition of a daily newspaper. That it will be regarded with favor and generously sustained, we have no doubt."

Wellsville, like many other Allegany County towns at that time, was thriving as a result of the oil boom which started the year before with the discovery of oil in large paying quantities nearby, and the conviction of its founder was soon confirmed as the "Reporter" grew rapidly to standard page size. Since that time it has continued to serve Wellsville and vicinity regularly each week day afternoon.

At the time of the founding of the "Daily Reporter," Enos W. Barnes was also publishing the Allegany County "Reporter," a weekly which he acquired in 1876 when he moved to Wellsville from Bath in the adjoining county of Steuben, where he had published the Steuben "Courier." Both the daily and the weekly "Reporter" (at times semi-weekly) were carried on by Mr. Barnes until his death in 1888, following which for many years the papers were published by his two sons, E. Willard Barnes and Charles M. Barnes, the former assuming the active management at the time of his father's death and continuing until his own death in 1925.

The present owners and publishers purchased the interest of Charles M. Barnes in 1929 and coincident with the beginning of the fiftieth year of the "Daily Reporter's" existence, its active management passed into the hands of the third generation of the Barnes family. The Allegany County "Reporter," the weekly, was discontinued in 1930.

The "Reporter" had a long history even before its acquisition by the Barnes family. In 1834 there was issued at Angelica a paper called the Angelica "Reporter" and Allegany "Republican," which had been purchased that year by William Pitt Angel. This paper was the successor of a number of publications of more or less stability reaching back to the Allegany "Republican" of 1820. Samuel C. Wilson soon bought the paper and it was issued as the Angelica "Reporter" until 1856. A number of changes of ownership occurred from this time, and eventually the paper was moved to Belmont, where it remained until 1874, then was brought to Wellsville and united with the Wellsville "Times" by the stock company owning the latter. The name of the consolidated papers was then changed to the Allegany County "Reporter" and the publication purchased by Enos W. Barnes in 1876.

2. Holding closely to a precept set down in 1867, when it was founded as "an exponent of Democracy," the Allegany County "Democrat'" published weekly, stands today as one of the two newspapers with Democratic leanings in one of the State's most staunch Republican counties. Possessor of an enviable reputation as the mouthpiece of half a dozen zealous editors, the Allegany County "Democrat" may look back upon a brilliant history from the pinnacle on which it now rests as the largest weekly newspaper in the county.

Early histories of the "Democrat," like those of nearly all rural publications, are incomplete. Obscured by the passing of the years, they must be reconstructed from fragments caught from many sources. It is a known fact, however, that Messrs. Williams and Barton founded the "Democrat" sometime in 1867. It may be said to have been refounded in 1870 by Myron E. Eddy and Charles F. White, since during the first three years of its history it had been published intermittently and with the assistance of private contributions. Personal mention of the founders is limited in most histories to the bare recital of their names, and it is virtually impossible to elaborate, except to repeat the precept on which they founded the newspaper—as "an exponent of Democracy."

Mr. Eddy retired in 1874, records show, and Mr. White continued alone until August of that year, when William W. Nichols—whom early sketches picture as having lost his first newspaper job because of "a love of humor and the ridiculous side of life"—became the editor and publisher. A. E. Cowles purchased a half interest from Mr. Nichols on June 11, 1882, and the Nichols and Cowles firm published it until February 8, 1887, when Mr. Cowles purchased the Nichols' interest.

In 1924 Carl N. Marshall came to Wellsville from the Buffalo "Times" to purchase the "Democrat" from Mr. Cowles. A crusading editor, Mr. Marshall lifted the paper to a position of prominence in the county greater than it had ever held before. He introduced the tabloid style newspaper to Allegany County, converting the "Democrat" to five columns size in 1935. The same year he was appointed postmaster of Wellsville, but remained as publisher of the newspaper. He named Laurence J. Pflager as business manager and Walter J. Baker as editor. In April, 1939, Mr. Baker left the "Democrat" to become proprietor of the Skaneateles "Press."

Of other Wellsville papers there are:

1. Genesee Valley "Free Press." See separate article.

2. The "Rural Budget," commenced at Wellsville in October, 1856, by Richard O. Shaut, and continued three or four years. A department of phonetics, edited by D. M. Sheerar, "a gentleman of rare erudition and research," was a distinguishing feature of the "Budget."

3. The Wellsville "Times," established in 1872 by George Howe, Benton C. Rude editor.

4. The "Daily Reporter and Democrat," run for a few weeks in 1876 and 1877 during the trial of one Hendryx, four columns, eleven by sixteen inches, with no news except that of the trial.

5. The "Free Press," decade of the 1880s, A. N. Cole proprietor. See separate article on this paper.

The Genesee Valley "Free Press"—The bare facts concerning the Genesee Valley "Free Press" seem to be: Founded in Belfast by A. N. Cole, assisted by General James S. Wadsworth, in the autumn of 1852, and nine issues published at various intervals; moved to Wellsville in February, 1853, and published there until 1875 under four managements: A. N. Cole its founder; Henry C. Fiske; Fiske and Fish (under whose régime its name was changed to the Wellsville "Free Press"); and Charles M. Beecher; suspended in 1875; revived in Belmont in 1877 by A. N. Cole in an office purchased from the "Alleganian" and continued there until 1881, when the paper was discontinued and the plant sold to the Genesee Valley "Post"; reëstablished in Wellsville in the early 1880s by A. N. Cole and published as a daily through the boom decade ending with 1890, when it was discontinued because Wellsville could not support two daily papers.

A local editor of the daily paper, Byron R. Newton, afterward became Assistant Secretary of the Treasury of the United States. George Howe, a printer in the employ of the "Free Press" of that time, was the father of David A. Howe, Wellsville's greatest benefactor, who gave to that village the finest free public library in any village in America and amply endowed it to be an educational and cultural center.

Whitesville—Present publication: The Whitesville "News." Editor and publisher: Glenn J. Robbins. Political affiliation: Republican. Size: Four pages, six columns, twenty inches. Circulation: Five hundred.

Since its founding in 1895 by Lester Fortner and W. D. Dexter, the Whitesville "News" has changed ownership three times, political

affiliation twice, and size once. Following Mr. Fortner's régime as editor and publisher came William D. Fish, who in turn sold out to H. M. Peet, from whom the present proprietor, Glenn J. Robbins, purchased the paper in 1916. Politically the paper was originally non-partisan. It became Democratic under the Fish and Peet managements and is now Republican. It was formerly an eight-page, six-column paper; it is now four-page, six-column.

The owner-editorship of Mr. Robbins, which has lasted continuously since 1916, is a longer period than the other three proprietorships combined. During the recent years of his management, the "News" has been influential in the securing of such things of community benefit as many miles of improved highways—none of which were built in 1922—a library, an enlarged school, and a splendid Borden milk plant.

Mr. Robbins served a thorough apprenticeship for his present position by working on a number of papers. He learned the printer's trade in the "News" office under Mr. Fish between 1908-11. Later he became successively editor of the "News," linotype operator and assistant editor of the Canisteo "Chronicle," Canisteo correspondent and city editor for the Hornell "Tribune," and assistant on the Perry "Herald" during the editorship of Guy Comfort. He has been active in fraternal organizations, and has been president of the official board of the Methodist Church, organist of the church, town clerk, assistant Boy Scout leader, and secretary to the board of education. After the epithet, "busiest editor in the world," applied to him by Guy Comfort, appeared in daily papers all over this country and even in Europe, one Arno V. Fredersdorff, of Berlin, wrote him a three-page letter asking him to publish a novel dealing with sensational historical documents. Concerning the incident Mr. Comfort wrote: "Such is fame."

Hume, Almond, Richburg—The towns of Hume, Almond, and Richburg, now journalistically served by nearby towns, have at times in their history boasted their own papers. The Hume "Enterprise" of H. C. Scott moved to Fillmore in 1882. Another paper of the same name continued there at least from 1885 until 1896, the editor of the latter date being E. W. O'Hara. The Rushford "Spectator" of October 12, 1882, declares that "Hume has a new paper called the Hume 'Journal,'" and the October 19 issue further states that it is "issued from the office of the Nunda 'Herald.'"

The Almond "Herald," commenced in 1853 by R. Denton, continued publication one year, when it was suspended. Six months later

it was revived by Melvin Hyde and Isaac Busby and appeared under the name of the Allegany "Sentinel." It was continued until 1856, the last proprietors being Messrs. Pruner and Spencer.

The Almond "Era" was started in 1887 by S. H. Jennings, who changed the name to the "True Issue" in 1894. It was Populist in politics. The Almond "Chronicle" was run approximately one year, from 1894-95.

Concerning Richburg newspapers, the 1896 county history states: "The first issue of the 'Oil Echo' appeared at Richburg on the morning of January 18, 1882. It was a seven-column folio, published by a stock company, with P. C. Boyle . . . . as editor and manager. . . . . The 'Echo' was conducted in a fearless manner and had a good circulation. The office was burned in May, 1882, shortly after the Cherry Grove 'boom' began to depopulate Richburg, and no further issues were made.

"The Richburg 'Weekly Era' was launched in November, 1881, by S. H. Jennings at present (1896) publisher of the Almond 'New Era.' It was soon made a daily, with S. J. Small business manager. The 'Era' was continued several months, but it never proved a success financially. Mr. Small finally bought the plant and issued the 'Sunday Racquet,' which lived but a short time.

"'The Spirit of Reform,' moved to Richburg from Belmont in 1895 by Victor Allen. Sold to M. C. Westcott, who was still publishing it in 1896."

The Richburg "News" is mentioned by the Rushford "Spectator" of October 19, 1882.

Journalism at Alfred University—The Alfred "Student." Any investigator into the story of Alfred University soon finds evidences of student publications at an early day. These periodicals were short lived and were often hard to distinguish from the weekly publications of the four literary and debating societies, which were simply written out in newspaper style and read at the sessions. A sample of these was the "Radiator and Review" of the Orophilian Lyceum. However, in January, 1874, appeared the first number of the Alfred "Student" "published monthly in the interests of Alfred University and her literary societies." The editorial board included both faculty members and students. The departments listed were: Literary, Editorial, University and Town, Alumni, and The College World. It ceased publication at the end of the academic year, 1878-79.

The Alfred University "Monthly." For nearly twenty years no successful student enterprise in the periodical field was undertaken.

During part of the interim the university published the "Quarterly Bulletin" (1895-99). In the spring of 1898 plans were perfected for launching the Alfred "Monthly" the next fall, renamed a few months later the Alfred University "Monthly." This was entirely a student venture. Its departments were more numerous than those of the earlier journal and its subscription price was seventy-five cents a year. Like its predecessor it combined news and literary articles. As the years passed it increased in size and quality, filling a real need. It was discontinued to make way for a student newspaper in 1913.

"Fiat Lux." On October 21, 1913, appeared the Alfred "Weekly," announcing a contest to see who would name the new arrival. A week later the contest ended with the selection of the university motto, "Fiat Lux," as the name of the newspaper, which now for more than twenty-six years has told Alfred students about themselves. Starting as a small four-column paper, it has increased to six columns and with four or six large pages. It includes also a separate pictorial section. At first subscriptions to the "Fiat" were purely voluntary, while in more recent years subscriptions have been added to tuition bills. The literary and business staffs are solely responsible for the paper, but work in informal friendly coöperation with a faculty advisory committee. The paper has recently won notable recognition in competitions in its own class on news, editorials, advertising, and sports.

The "Saxonian." For the past two years (1937-39) a student magazine, sometimes inclined to be modernistic in format and content, sometimes humorous and sometimes literary, has been bidding for the support of the student body. It has appeared as a quarterly and as a bi-monthly publication. It has not yet fully established itself.

The "Alumni News." The Alumni Association of the University has published here for fifteen years an organ of its own. The first issue appeared in October, 1924, under the title Alfred "Alumni Quarterly." In 1933 the association was reorganized and the publication increased in size and importance and its name changed to the "Alumni News." It is published five times during the academic year and comprises usually twenty-four pages and a cover.

Journalism at Houghton College—The Houghton "Star," successor to a handwritten paper read before the Neosophic Literary Society, first appeared as a sixteen-page monthly in February, 1909, with Allison Edgar as editor and Stanley W. Wright, now college dean of men, as business manager. It consisted of news of school events, personal items, religious news, poetry, editorials, literary

society reports, and an article on prohibition. In September, 1916, it was changed to a four-page monthly newspaper, in 1922 to the magazine form, and in 1923 back to the newspaper, this time published weekly. Its twenty columns (it is four-page, five columns) offer a medium for the dissemination of student opinion and effect a fairly complete coverage of school news. It is a particularly well made up college paper. For the first few years of its existence it was printed at the office of the Rushford "Spectator." The print shop which the college later set up now compares favorably with any in the county.

The "Lanthorn," the literary magazine of the school, published annually, offers a medium for the presentation of literary contest material and other productions. Begun in 1932 as the organ of the college writers' club, it is now a project of the entire student body.

The "Boulder," largely a pictorial annual survey of school life, was first published in 1924. It is the work of the junior classes of all departments.

County Religious Publications—Alfred and Houghton, like most educational centers, originated as religious centers, the former being largely settled by Seventh Day Baptists, the latter by Wesleyan Methodists. Since the Wesleyan publication office has always been in Syracuse, no regular religious publications have been issued at Houghton, except a quarterly for the Young Missionary Workers' Band, which has been published since 1922 with Mrs. Mary Lane Clarke as editor. Alfred was the publication center for the Seventh Day Baptists from 1872 until 1894, when the publishing house was moved to Plainfield, New Jersey. Operating under the name of American Sabbath Tract Society, the publishing house issued a large number of periodicals during those twenty-two years. The list follows: 1. The "Sabbath Recorder." Issues published in Alfred were Volume XXVIII, Number 27-Volume L, No. 52 (June 27, 1872-December 27, 1894). Size: From a four to an eight to a sixteen-page weekly. Editors: The Revs. Nathan V. Hull, Lewis A. Platts, Leander E. Livermore. 2. The "Bible Scholar," a four-page monthly, published 1877-79, Rev. Oliver Dyer Sherman, editor. Devoted to the interests of the Sabbath schools. 3. The "Light of Home," an eight-page monthly for the family in the interest of Sabbath reform, published 1885-January, 1889, Abram Herbert Lewis, D. D., and Correll D. Potter, M. D., editors. 4. The "Outlook," published under various titles, namely: a. the "Outlook," an eight-page monthly, published 1882-84, A. H. Lewis, D. D., and C. D. Potter, M. D., editors; b. The "Outlook and

Sabbath Quarterly," a thirty-two-page quarterly, published from 1884-1889, Lewis and Potter editors; c. The "Outlook—A Sabbath Quarterly," a forty-eight-page quarterly, published 1890-91, Lewis and Potter editors; d. The "Sabbath Outlook," a bi-monthly; e. The "Evangel and Sabbath Outlook," a weekly. It was suspended in 1897. 5. The "Peculiar People," a forty-eight-page monthly, published April, 1889-March, 1898; devoted to Jewish interests—political, social, literary, and religious; Rev. William C. Daland, editor. 6. The "Helping Hand," a twenty-four-page, later a twenty-eight-page, quarterly, published since the January-March, 1885, issue in the interest of Bible school work; the Revs. Lewis A. Platts and Leander E. Livermore, editors. 7. "Seventh Day Baptist Quarterly," 128 pages, published for a year, 1884, its object to gather and preserve such facts, papers, biographies, sermons, etc., as might be deemed worthy a permanent place in history; Rev. William C. Whitford editor. 8. The "Sabbath School Journal," a twenty-four-page monthly, published for one year, 1874, the Revs. Darwin E. Maxson and Lewis A. Platts editors. 9. "Our Sabbath Visitor," a four-page weekly story paper, published March 2, 1882-February 6, 1902, George H. Babcock, Flora A. Randolph, Mrs. Loisanna Tomlinson Stanton, Edna Bliss, editors. 10. "Evangelii Harold" ("Gospel Messenger"), a four-page, evangelical Sabbath reform monthly, printed in the Swedish language, published January, 1885-December, 1889. In January, 1890, its name was changed to—11. "Evangelii Budbarare" ("Gospel Message"), same style and size as ten; published January, 1890-about December, 1892; O. W. Pearson and Rev. Lewis A. Platts, editors. 12. "Eduth Le Israel" ("Witness to Israel"), a four-page monthly printed in Hebrew, designed for educated Jews, its object being the exposition of the Hebrew Scriptures in their relation to Christ and the New Testament; published September, 1887-October, 1890; Rev. C. T. Luckey editor. 13. "Sabbath Reform Library," an eight-page monthly, published January, 1892-April, 1893, under the supervision, successively, of Rev. J. G. Burdick and Dr. C. D. Potter, with the following well-known leaders as contributors: the Rev. Nathan Wardner, Rev. Abram H. Lewis, Rev. James Bailey, Dr. C. D. Potter, H. B. Maurer, and W. D. Tickner.

Allegany County Publishers' Association—The present officers of the Allegany County Publishers' Association, said to be the oldest in the State, are: President, L. L. Stillwell, of the Angelica "Advocate"; vice-president, M. P. Howden, of the Northern Allegany "Observer"; secretary, Claire C. Backus, of the Andover "News."

CHAPTER LXIV

History of Industry in Allegany County

By Paul M. Davie

One of the most impressive facts in the history of our country is the very remarkable progress which has been made in the comparatively short period of a little over a century. Contrast the busy communities in which we live here in Allegany County today with what they were a little over a hundred years ago. Where today we have good homes, good stores, and thriving industries, a hundred years ago there were only scattered settlements in the midst of a dense forest of pine and hardwoods. Where today we have good roads on which we can travel from one county to the other in an hour, in the early days there were only rough wagon roads, or mere bridle paths, where the same trip meant days of hard travel. Most of these early roads followed the river or its tributaries. What little commerce was carried on had to be over these rough roads or on river boats. Undoubtedly before the forests were cut down the river depths were greater and the flow of water steadier than it is today. Since a large part of our forests have been cut in the Genesee watershed the rains run off quickly in harmful floods and when the dry season comes there is far too little water in the rivers to permit the use of boats, except for very short distances.

The early settlers in the Genesee Valley were faced with the necessity of cutting down the forests and removing the stumps in order to make room for farm crops. Because hardwood stumps were so much easier to pull than pine stumps, hardwood districts were the first to be settled. There being no market for lumber at that time the hardwood logs were rolled into great piles and burned. The remaining ashes were carefully gathered and converted into lye. "Black salts" were made by boiling down the lye. These found a ready sale, for after a thorough baking pearl ash was produced, from which was

manufactured baking soda. Thus the clearing of hardwood land nearly paid for itself and provided the early settler with the little cash needed to buy his necessities.

In the early days, next to black salts and pearl ashes, maple sugar could be used best in trade. One of the early histories records that in 1840 John Cline, then of Hallsport, traded a Cortland manufacturer five hundred pounds of maple sugar for a two-horse wagon. Butter, cheese and lumber were the products which the early settlers next brought to market.

Ruinous costs of transportation over long woods roads and up and down steep hills rendered it impossible to realize a profit. At one time Baltimore seemed destined always to remain the great market for this region. Reached easily by water communications from Arkport down the Canisteo, Chemung, and Susquehanna rivers, it received the grain, lumber, and other products of a great country. The Allegheny River, reached from Cuba and Olean, furnished a means of transportation and communication with Pittsburgh. A map of the Church Tract, made in 1804, says that "Produce can be transported from within 16 miles of the Tract down the Susquehanna in arks to Baltimore at two shillings per bushel."

Later a large amount of the products of the southern end of our county were hauled to Dansville, where they were shipped by canal. The opening of the Genesee Valley Canal into our county at its northern end, between 1851 and 1856, caused a great business boom for the area near the canal. This canal ran from Rochester to Olean and passed through Fillmore, Caneadea, Oramel, Belfast, and Cuba. The ruins of this old canal may easily be seen along the present route of the Rochester-Olean branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which followed the old canal very closely. Some of the old stone locks are still standing close to the road between Nunda and Portageville. The year 1839 marked the beginning of the construction of the Erie Railroad. Although it was not completed until 1851 its construction greatly stimulated the growth of towns along its route, particularly Wellsville. The subject of transportation is taken up in greater detail in another chapter.

Lumbering—The principal industry of Allegany County from the time of its early settlement until about the beginning of the twentieth century was lumbering and sawmills. As previously mentioned, the entire county was covered with a dense growth of virgin timber; either hardwood or pine, spruce, and hemlock. To the early settlers

the forests were a nuisance, something to be gotten rid of the easiest possible way. Later, when improved means of transportation began to give it value, lumbering became an important industry. Sawmills were established on nearly every creek. During the summer the trees were cut down and skidded to the nearest waterway. At the time of the next spring freshet they were floated down to the nearest sawmill. Where the timber was too far from any waterway the logs were left until the following winter, when they were hauled on bob-sleds to the nearest sawmill. In some cases tram roads were built on which to haul the logs to the river. The early sawmills were mostly run by water-power. Later the majority were operated by steam.

In addition to these sawmills, which merely cut the logs into boards, there were many planing mills, shingle mills and stave mills which worked the lumber up into various usable forms. As an example of the large number of sawmills existing in the early times the 1895 edition of the Allegany County history records the names of nineteen different sawmills in the town of Scio on the Genesee River and its tributaries: Knight's Creek, Vandermark Creek, Gordon Creek, and Brimmer Brook. Many of these sawmills cut from one to two million feet of lumber annually, and gave employment to a large number of men. Many others were engaged in cutting down the trees and hauling them to the mills. Much of the timber in the vicinity of Cuba was made into rafts twelve by sixty-five feet and floated down Oil Creek to Olean. There these smaller rafts would be bound together into one large raft and floated down the Allegheny River. One of the most common sights of these early days was these great rafts of logs, often partly covered with cargoes of shingles and other lumber products, being floated down the Allegheny River.

At the southern end of the county, particularly in the vicinity of Wellsville, much of the lumber was hauled to Dansville for shipping. In the summer Wellsville streets were piled full of lumber and in the winter, when sleds could be used, it was a common sight for as many as a hundred teams to start in one day for Dansville with loads of lumber. One of the largest and best known sawmills which continued to operate until about the end of the nineteenth century was the Charles Duke Company, later becoming the Oak Duke Lumber Company. It was located near the present site of the Sinclair Refining Company plant. It turned out a million and a half feet of lumber annually, as well as large quantities of lath and other lumber products. Nearly every town in the county had sawmills, too numerous to mention individually.

With the advent of better means of transportation, particularly after the building of the Erie Railroad, small industries were started in many towns around the county. Several of these continued for many years and grew into very substantial manufacturing plants. It would be impossible within the limited scope of this chapter to describe or even enumerate all of them. A brief description of several of the larger and more permanent industrial plants which employed over thirty people will be attempted.

Woodworking Plants—Coats Manufacturing Company: In addition to the numerous sawmills and planing mills there were a number of manufacturing plants which used lumber in making various finished products. One of the oldest and largest of these woodworking industries was the Coats Manufacturing Company. This was founded in 1837 by W. H. Coats, who at that time opened a small cabinet shop on Main Street in Wellsville just south of the present First Trust Company bank building. Later a larger manufacturing plant was erected along the river in the rear of the original shop. The brick store building now occupied by the Marathon Restaurant was built by the company for a salesroom, where the finished product could be properly displayed. The shop was burned at three different times during its history and rebuilt each time. Its chief product was bedroom furniture. It continued operation until 1916. The large wooden plant was later occupied by several smaller industries and paint shops, until destroyed by fire in 1920.

Carter Package Factory: In 1870 Charles T. Silsby and a Mr. Cady removed a business of manufacturing butter tubs, firkins, and pails from Seneca Falls to Belmont in order to be near the raw material. A large wooden factory building was erected on the river at the eastern end of the village. This employed from twenty to twenty-five men. Early in the 'eighties it was devoted to the manufacture of toothpicks. Finally the business ceased and the plant was idle for a few years. The business was later purchased by the citizens of Belmont, Charles S. Whitney, William P. Clark, and W. J. Richardson holding title as trustees.

Shortly after that it was turned over to J. R. Harrington, who operated the plant in making butter and lard tubs, employing from thirty to forty men. After successfully operating the factory for ten years Mr. Harrington left Belmont and moved to the West. The building was later torn down.

Wellsville Burial Case Company: For many years the business of manufacturing caskets has been carried on in Wellsville. The nature

of its products is such that production is seldom affected by economic conditions, and as a result many people have had continuous employment.

One of the first men to open a factory for manufacturing caskets in this community was H. C. Buehring. Shortly afterward a partnership was formed with Mel. Wehring. Then came the Knoules Manufacturing Company. Both of these concerns were located on the present site of the Wellsville Burial Case Company's property.

In February, 1907, J. C. Darcy, George Cooper and Fred Damon took over the business of these two concerns and organized the Wellsville Burial Case Company, with a capitalization of fifty thousand dollars.

Immediately new buildings were erected and the company made progress from the start. As the business grew and new customers were added in many states of the Union, further expansion of buildings and equipment was necessary and as a result the present modern factory now exists, employing approximately fifty people every work day of the year.

Much of the progress was due to the keen business judgment and foresight of Mr. Darcy and his associates. His plans were interrupted by his death in 1923. From 1923 to 1927 Charles J. Wilcox acted as manager, later going to Rochester to engage in business for himself.

On January 1, 1927, John A. Dolan took over the management of the company, and with the assistance of the other members of the executive staff, has guided its policies and steered its course through the depression years to the present time. The personnel of the organization is made up as follows: George J. Hagenmaier, president; John A. Dolan, treasurer and general manager; and Mrs. J. C. Darcy, secretary, all of whom are active in the affairs of the company.

Their business consists of the manufacturing of wood and cloth covered caskets, either for immediate use or stock purposes. All products are sold to the public through licensed funeral directors. Lumber—such as chestnut, oak, cypress, walnut and mahogany—is cut from virgin forests in the South and West, brought to the yards by rail, there put through the mill to be worked into durable as well as beautifully designed burial containers. All silks are fabricated into artistically designed interiors by skilled employees long identified with the company. Much of the company's success is due to the high character of their work and the excellent quality of materials used.

In addition to the factory here in Wellsville, the company owns and operates a large showroom in the city of Buffalo. Through the sale of their products, which are trademarked, Wellsville is known in many parts of the country.

Empire Sash & Door Company: Around 1890 there was an old planing mill which turned out woodwork for houses, etc., operated in Friendship by Hinman & Butler, two local carpenters. This form of manufacturing was enlarged upon by a neighboring mill which was incorporated in 1890 and known as the Friendship Manufacturing Company, this company, financed by local capital, was organized by A. B. Voorheis, George C. Hollister and others. R. D. Rowley afterward came with the company as treasurer and was with them for many years. It was reorganized in 1897 and continued operations under the firm name of Rowley & Reese. This was the largest industry as to number of persons employed which has ever been in Friendship. They originally manufactured carpet sweepers, along with interior woodwork for residences. Later they specialized principally in doors and blinds.

Later the name was changed to Friendship Sash and Door Company, and then to Empire Sash and Door Company, manufacturing interior woodwork, and at one time employing over 150 men. It was unable to meet increasing competition from larger companies, however, and was dissolved in 1917. For several years after that it was used by the Wellsville Burial Case Company in the manufacture of hardware used in their business. The plant has since been destroyed by fire.

Feed and Gristmills—Feed and gristmills were to be found in nearly every community, even the smallest. Corn and other grain raised by farmers was hauled to these mills, where it was ground into flour and feed. Usually a part of the product was retained by the mill in return for the grinding. Where the farmer had more grain than he needed for his own use it was sold to the mill. The mill's profit came from the sale of the flour and feed. Most of these early gristmills were located along rivers or creeks where there was ample waterpower. They were located at a point where there were falls or rapids in the river. The water for the mill was taken from a point above the falls or rapids by sluices or "races," which carried the water to the mill where it was used to turn the mill-wheels. Various types of mill-wheels were used, the large overshot type being particularly picturesque.

Phelps & Sibley Company: The largest flour and feed mill in the county is operated by the Phelps and Sibley Company at Cuba. This company was started by Warren O. Phelps in 1879. In 1884 Frank B. Sibley entered into partnership with Mr. Phelps. Thereafter the firm was known as Phelps & Sibley. It has continued to prosper until the present time and now gives employment to about fifty men.

Phelps & Sibley Company manufacture a complete line of balanced rations for dairy cattle, horses, pigs, poultry, and dogs, and conduct an experimental poultry plant where all poultry rations are on constant test, so they may know just what their feeds will do. Rations are improved as soon as complete tests show improvement can be made on original formulas. Recently they have been shipping carloads of dairy and poultry feeds to Puerto Rico.

The company also deals in lumber, coal and builders' supplies. The patronage of this firm extends over a wide territory, including southern New York, northern Pennsylvania and northern New Jersey, as well as Puerto Rico.

The present officers of the company are: Helen Dempsey, president; Robert Gill, vice-president and general manager; and Walter Sibley, secretary and treasurer.

Tanneries—Another pioneer industry common in every community was the tanning of hides. This was accomplished by soaking the raw hides in vats of a liquid which was extracted from hemlock bark. Many of these early tanneries were small, employing only two or three men. Others, such as the large tanneries at Wellsville, gave employment to a great many. Skinning the bark off the hemlock trees and hauling it to the tanneries gave employment to a large number of men. At the tanneries it was stacked into great piles the size and shape of a large building. With the disappearance of the virgin hemlock, likewise, went the tanneries, which were largely dependent on these huge supplies of bark.

The largest of these tanneries was located at Wellsville. The first large tannery was erected at Wellsville by Bush and Howard in 1859-1860 and was known as the Wellsville Tannery. It had a capacity of two hundred vats, which was later increased to five hundred. It was located between Early and Stevens streets, on the Brooklyn side. It continued in business until about 1887. The buildings burned in 1891. Two other large tanneries were built later, north of the present cemetery on land now partly occupied by the Cabot Gas Company and adjacent South Main Street residences. These were later purchased

and operated by A. R. Hill. These tanneries had a capacity from seven hundred to eight hundred hides per day and afforded employment for 175 to 275 men, as well as a market for thousands of cords of hemlock bark. Older residents of Wellsville will recall the bark which was neatly stacked into piles as tall as a two-story building and several hundred feet long. Railroad switches ran between these piles of bark and into the tanneries. From twenty-five thousand to thirty thousand cords of bark were used annually. The Wellsville tanneries ranked high among the most modern and extensive in the entire United States. One of the more permanent buildings connected with the tanning industry was a large brick store building located on South Main Street near the old tanneries. It was used for a company store. Later it was used as an office building and pattern shop for the Kerr Turbine Company.

Dairy Industries—The dairy industry has always been a very important one in Allegany County. To take care of the surplus milk, cheese factories were located in every farming district. Here the milk was made up into cheese, which was sold to larger towns and cities. Whey, a waste product from cheese-making, was taken home by the farmer to feed to his pigs. During later years a much larger part of the milk has been taken to condenseries, where it is cooled down to a certain temperature and shipped into the cities. At the large milk plant at Belmont the milk is evaporated into milk powder. All dairies selling milk to these condenseries are required by law to have their cattle and barns inspected regularly to insure that the cattle are free from contamination. Only a comparatively small part of the milk is now sold to cheese factories, the larger part being sold to these condenseries or to local milk dealers for immediate distribution.

Cuba has always held the distinction of being one of the leading cheese markets of the entire Eastern United States. Cuba cheese buyers purchase cheese and other dairy products all over New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio and hold it in large cold storage warehouses located at Cuba. Each Monday a market is held at Cuba which has an important bearing on the price of cheese and other dairy products throughout the Eastern United States. Several million dollars' worth of dairy products are handled through the Cuba market annually. Ackerly, Sill & Company were the pioneers in this field. This firm later became the Ackerly, Renwick Company and is now the Ackerly, Windsor Company, Incorporated. Other pioneers in the cheese business were Demcey & Sibley and George H. Harris & Company. For

the past twenty years the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company has operated a cold storage plant, having bought out the George H. Harris Company and the Cuba Cheese & Cold Storage Company. At Alfred Station another cold storage plant is operated by the Miller-Richardson Company. Another smaller plant owned by William Woodruff is located at Andover.

Machine Shops—Clark Bros. Company: In 1866 the Belmont Manufacturing Company was organized, David Rawson, inventor of a popular mowing machine, being the inspiring genius back of the enterprise. The business was purchased in 1874 by the firm of A. W. Miner & Company. In 1879 the shops were partially burned. At that time William P. and Charles E. Clark bought the plant, rebuilt the shops and devoted them to the manufacture of agricultural implements, sawmill machinery, and electric light plant equipment. The company was known as The Clark Bros. Company. In 1889, when sixty men were employed, the plant was again burned. For some time the business was conducted in the shop of J. Adsit at Hornellsville. Fearing that the shops might not be rebuilt at Belmont, its citizens determined to reëstablish the business there and pledged ten thousand dollars to insure its return. The shops were quickly rebuilt and became more flourishing than ever. It was then devoted largely to the manufacture of sawmill machinery, Corless engines and gas engines. Their sawmill machinery was shipped to nearly every State in the Union as well as to many foreign countries. For many years the Clark Bros. shop continued to prosper, giving employment to as high as 250 men. It was the largest machine shop in the county. In 1912 a disastrous fire completely wiped out the large plant, which was a serious blow to the thriving village of Belmont. The firm then moved to Olean, where another large shop was built, and continues to operate to the present time.

McEwen Brothers Company of Wellsville date their beginning back to 1861, when Duncan M. McEwen erected a building at the corner of Main and East State streets and set up the first wool carding machine and machine shop in Wellsville. After the death of Mr. McEwen in 1864 the business was conducted by Mrs. McEwen until 1868, when the sons, John and William R. McEwen, formed a partnership. The establishment was burned in 1876 and at once rebuilt. In 1893 the plant was again rebuilt of brick and additions were made, making it one of the largest and best machine shops in western New York. Its products were boilers, engines, sawmills, and miscellaneous

iron work. Since 1915 the firm has been engaged largely in the sale of oil well supplies and in repair business with the oil industry. The management of the business has been continued by members of the McEwen family. William R. McEwen, a grandson of the founder, is president of the firm at the present time, and Alwin Schaller, a son-in-law of John McEwen, general manager.

Air Preheater Corporation—This corporation and its connection with the village of Wellsville dates back to 1903, since which time the plant has been operated successively by The Clark & Norton Company, James Howden & Company of America, Incorporated, and the Air Preheater Corporation, in the order named.

The plant site was acquired in 1903 from the United States Leather Company, who had previously operated a tannery at this loca-



WELLSVILLE PLANT OF THE AIR PREHEATER CORPORATION

tion. The Clark & Norton Company organized and began business in the same year. The principal stockholders of the Clark & Norton Company were: C. E. Clark, The Norton Oil Company, Horace Higbee, and G. B. Pritchard. C. E. Clark and G. B. Pritchard had previously been connected with Clark Brothers, of Belmont, New York, manufacturers of sawmill machinery, steam and gas engines.

The charter of the Clark & Norton Company permitted it to manufacture oil well equipment, including pumping powers, gas engines, compressors, and miscellaneous oil field machinery. A foundry was operated for the production of such castings as were required in the manufacture of this equipment and the old buildings formerly occupied by the tannery were used as machine shop and office until the present machine shop was erected in 1908. In 1918 the present plate shop or the building adjacent to Dyke Street was erected for use as a foundry and has since been altered for use as a plate shop.

During the period of 1903 to 1918, and for some years thereafter, the principal product of the Clark & Norton Company consisted of a direct-connected, direct-driven gas engine and compressor unit which was developed exclusively by the Clark & Norton Company and was unique in its field, in that the gas and air cylinders were located at opposite ends of the same engine bed, thus combining the driver and driven mechanism in one unit. About 150 of these compressors, ranging in size from fifty to eighty horsepower, were manufactured and sold, a number of which are still in service in the oil fields.

In 1918 the assets of the Clark & Norton Company were acquired by the James Howden & Company, Limited, of Glasgow, Scotland, and a corporation, with the firm name of James Howden & Company of America, Incorporated, took over the operation of the Wellsville plant. James Howden & Company, of Glasgow, are quite well-known in shipping circles—their product consisting of marine-type steam-turbines, furnace fronts, and high-speed vertical steam engines, all for installation on shipboard. This equipment, with the exception of the turbines, was manufactured at the Wellsville plant for American shipyards between the years of 1918 and 1925.

In 1925 the Air Preheater Corporation was organized for the manufacture of the Ljungstrom type of regenerative air preheater. The stock of the new company was owned jointly by Aktiebolaget Ljungstroms Angturbin, of Stockholm, Sweden, and the James Howden & Co., Limited, of Glasgow, Scotland. In 1933 The Superheater Company, with main offices located in New York City, acquired the controlling interest in the Air Preheater Corporation and assumed the active management of the local plant.

The Ljungstrom regenerative air preheater is recognized as the leader in its field and the local company has consistently obtained a major portion of the available air preheater business in the United States. In addition to its application to steam-generating units, it is also useful in reclaiming the heat units usually lost in the stack gases in connection with oil stills, cement kilns, iron-melting cupolas, and open-hearth and billet-heating furnaces.

Kerr Turbine Company: At the early part of 1900, the development of the steam turbine, originally begun in Sweden, France, and England, appeared in America, with the large power concerns, General Electric, Westinghouse, and Allis-Chalmers. Prof. Charles V. Kerr, head of the mechanical department of Armour Institute, one of the pioneer developers of the steam turbine as a prime mover, in connection with local capitalists, began the manufacture in 1902 in Wells-

ville of the Kerr Steam Turbine, whose plant was located on South Main Street. After a few years of progress, the interests of the company were acquired by F. P. Merrill and Charles Adsit, of Hornell, and Paul B. Hanks, of Wellsville, who continued the company from 1906 until 1923, when it was purchased by the Elliott Company, of Pittsburgh, large power plant apparatus manufacturers, who continued the plant until 1928, when it was removed to their larger plant at Jeannette, Pennsylvania.

In the meantime, the plant had expanded from a development stage to a large concern employing several hundred men and whose product was nationally used and known in this and foreign countries. After the beginning of the 1914 World War, the plant was commandeered by the United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation and was engaged in the building of marine turbines to drive ships, employing some six hundred men, and was Wellsville's largest industry during that time.

Moore Steam Turbine Corporation—The Moore Steam Turbine Corporation was organized in 1916 by J. L. Moore and other Wellsville men. Mr. Moore had previously been chief engineer of the Kerr Turbine Company. After the death of Mr. Moore in 1924, M. D. Church became head of the corporation; S. F. Booth, vice-president and treasurer; and William R. McEwen, secretary and assistant treasurer. In 1936 the Worthington Pump & Machinery Corporation, of Harrison, New Jersey, acquired a controlling interest in the company, which still, however, remains under the very able management of Mr. Church.

The chief products of the Moore Turbine Company are steam turbines, reduction gears and turbo-generators. Turbines and turbo-geared units are built in sizes up to four thousand horsepower and are designed and manufactured to suit the particular steam conditions for each installation. Some are built to exhaust into a vacuum while others exhaust at high pressures and the steam is then utilized for heating or plant process work. Steam at intermediate pressures can be "bled out" from the various turbine stages if desired.

The turbines, and gears if used, are designed and manufactured and the complete units are assembled and tested at the plant. Due to the nature of the work it is necessary to maintain a large staff of engineers and draftsmen for designing, as well as specially trained machinists for actual production work.

Several thousand Moore steam turbines are operating in various parts of the world, mostly in industrial plants in the United States and

Canada. Many of Uncle Sam's battleships are equipped with Moore turbo-generator units. Many others have been furnished to the government for land service. Many of the large hotels, office buildings, and stores use Moore equipment for making their own power and electric current, particularly during the winter months, when the exhaust steam is used for heating purposes. The village of Wellsville municipal plant has a one thousand five hundred kilowatt turbo-generator unit for making power and from which steam is "bled" for heating the high school building, the hospital and the David A. Howe Public Library.

The Moore Turbine has had a very healthy growth, having added to its plant in 1920, 1930, 1935, and 1936. Another substantial addition is planned for the year 1939. Approximately 200 to 250 men are given constant employment by this firm. This is another growing industry of which Wellsville may justly be proud.

Victor Aluminum Company: One of Wellsville's important industries during the period from 1915 to 1932 was the Victor Aluminum Company. This company was started in the old Duke mill by Lester W. Rockwell, W. E. Browning, and Fay L. Rockwell. Later a modern brick and steel plant was built at the corner of Brooklyn and Stevens streets. The plant burned in 1917, but was immediately rebuilt. The products of the plant were aluminum cooking utensils and chrome plated copper and brassware. A considerable proportion of the product was shipped to Europe. From seventy to one hundred men were employed. The plant was finally shut down in 1932. It is now being used as an automobile sales and repair plant by the John R. Rice Company, Incorporated.

Drake Manufacturing Company: The only manufacturing company in Friendship which has been in business continually for the past forty-two years—from the time it was founded in 1897—is the Drake Manufacturing Company, Incorporated, formerly Drake Hardware Company. This company erected a building on the south side of Friendship in that year for the manufacture of the Empire State malleable iron range. The founders were B. Frank Drake and L. S. Howard. Associated with them were Charles L. Howard and Charles A. Day. The present officers are: Howard B. Drake, president and treasurer, and M. Carey Drake, vice-president and secretary. This company at the present time is still manufacturing the Empire State malleable iron range and employs about fifteen people.

Adjoining the Drake Manufacturing Company plant a concrete building was erected in 1909, financed by local capital, for the Rumsey

Engine and Machine Company. They were in active business about eight years. The president and general manager was Charles B. Rumsey; treasurer, Roy M. Carter. After the Rumsey Company dissolved in 1917 the plant was taken over by the Drake Manufacturing Company, who installed new machinery for the manufacture of electric hoists and cranes. With the foundry and stove factory they employed about forty people. The hoist business was dissolved at the time of the depression starting in 1930, and at the present time the building is occupied by the Graves-Pierce Manufacturing Company, manufacturing aluminum utensils. Victor L. Graves is manager.

Railroad Shops—The principal industrial plant of Angelica has been a railroad shop. The original shop at Angelica was built about the year 1881 by local men, and was known as the Angelica Foundry and Machine Shop, with the late James T. Brown as president. At this shop repairs were made to cars and engines for the Allegany Central Railroad, the Olean Railroad and the Friendship Railroad companies, which later merged, forming the Central New York and Western Railroad Company, operating between Olean, Hornell and Wayland Junction, New York.

In February, 1893, the Central New York and Western Railroad Company took over these shops. By merger in August, 1899, the railroad became the present company, The Pittsburgh, Shawmut and Northern Railroad Company, which has operated these shops to the present time. In 1903 the shops were seriously damaged by fire, and in 1918 were practically destroyed by fire, being rebuilt in October of that year.

During the years when wooden coal cars were operated, or until just after the World War, a force of from 130 to 140 men were employed. This force has been reduced since that time, as coal cars now are mostly steel hopper cars, and only light or emergency repairs are made at these shops at present.

Hydro-Electric Development—Another interesting chapter in the industrial history of Allegany County is the development of the hydro-electric power industry. This has been limited to the area near Fillmore and Caneadea. The first hydro-electric power plant in the county was built in 1904-05 at Mills Mills on Wiscoy Creek by the Genesee Valley Power Company. The stock of this company was owned by W. L. Young, of Fillmore, and George Fobes, of Olean. It had a capacity of 150 horsepower. Electricity was first supplied to the village of Fillmore, which was one of the first villages under a thou-

sand population in the State to have electric lights. Lines were later extended to Hume, Pike and Bliss. In 1907 W. L. Young bought out the interest of George Fobes and continued to operate the company alone until 1920. For many years the business did not pay running expenses, but Mr. Young continued to have faith in the future of his business and continued to serve these four communities.

During all these years Mr. Young had continually dreamed of harnessing the falls at Wiscoy. In 1920 the company was recapitalized and stock and bonds sold to the public permitting the construction of a one thousand five hundred horsepower plant at Wiscoy. Franchises were obtained from towns southward to Belmont and Friendship and a contract signed to furnish energy to the Nunda Electric Light Company, serving also Dalton and Hunt. Coincident with the remarkable growth of the electric industry as a whole, the Genesee Valley Power Company prospered and finally bore out Mr. Young's visions and dreams in a financial way and, in 1928, was sold to the Rochester Gas & Electric Corporation.

At about the same time the Rochester Gas & Electric Corporation purchased the Genesee Valley Power Company, they secured similar properties in Geneseo, Mt. Morris, Nunda, and Bolivar, and built a huge dam at Caneadea. This dam is used largely in regulating the flow of water down the Genesee River, making it possible to maintain a fairly constant volume of water for uses of power plants farther down the river. All the units south of Rochester were combined into one operating district and are managed from the company office at Fillmore. H. G. Young, a son of the founder of the original Genesee Power Company, is the present manager of this Fillmore office.

Alfred Terra Cotta Company: One of the unique industries of Allegany County was the Celadon Terra Cotta Company, located at Alfred. This plant was built in 1888 and was backed by John J. Merrill, Frank Vogan, William R. Clarke, D. S. Burdick and other local men. Utilizing the very high grade shale deposits between Alfred and Alfred Station, this plant manufactured a superior quality architectural terra cotta ware and roofing tile. The products were sold all over the eastern United States. The red roofing tile which is now seen so commonly on buildings about the county came from this Alfred terra cotta plant. About seventy-five men were employed.

For a number of years the plant was under the control of George H. Babcock, of Plainfield, New Jersey. After his death his widow continued the operation of the plant for a few years and later sold her

holdings to the Ludowici-Celadon Company of Chicago. In 1908 the plant was moved to Chicago.

Although this industry has long ceased to exist, so far as Alfred is concerned, its original location in Alfred led the State to locate the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred. This has proved to be a very important institution and of great value to the clay working industries in New York and neighboring states.

Scoville, Brown & Company: Although it is not the purpose of this chapter to describe any of the mercantile establishments there is one concern which has always been considered more or less as an industry because a goodly percentage of their products are prepared and packed on their premises. The company referred to is Scoville, Brown & Company, one of the oldest and largest wholesale grocery firms in western New York.

This firm commenced business January 1, 1886. The members of the original firm were Luman H. Scoville, Joseph H. Brown, and George C. Rosa. Mr. Scoville furnished the capital but retired from any active participation in the management of the business. He had been the senior member of three preceding firms doing retail and wholesale grocery business, namely: Scoville, Thurston & Brown, L. H. Scoville & Company, and Brown & Scoville.

The firm of Scoville, Brown & Company began with a moderate sized retail business and a wholesale force which included only one traveling salesman. The firm gradually increased its operating force and territory. For many years three or four salesmen were employed and the facilities increased correspondingly. The warehouses fronting on the Erie Railroad and Fassett Street were built in 1896 and 1900, and the firm had come to enjoy a liberal patronage.

Late in 1906 Mr. Rosa purchased Mr. Brown's interest and continued to act as president and general manager of the corporation then formed, until his death in 1933.

For many years six traveling salesmen have been employed and the total operating force, both retail and wholesale, in recent years has been about seventy. The territory has been expanded until it now includes practically every city or village within a radius of sixty or seventy miles. The generous sized business which the firm has built up may partly be accounted for by the rather unusual service furnished in the matter of store-door delivery to approximately five hundred wholesale customers located in six counties in New York State and three in northern Pennsylvania. Ten trucks are employed at the

present time in handling the business of the firm. The products of the firm have been put out under the well-known Heart's Delight brand.

In addition to the wholesale business the firm has always conducted a high-class retail store. For many years James A. Devore was in charge of this store. His son, John Devore, has taken charge of the retail department since the death of his father. The present officers are: Mrs. George C. Rosa, president; R. E. Gleason, vice-president; C. G. Allen, secretary; and E. E. Stone, treasurer.

Sinclair Refinery: Wellsville's greatest industry is the Sinclair Refining Company's Wellsville plant, the largest refinery in the world devoted exclusively to the refining of Pennsylvania grade crude oil and one of the most modern industrial institutions of its kind in existence. From an humble beginning the refinery has developed into a mighty industry, its buildings, equipment and tanks covering a territory of over one hundred acres and furnishing employment to over six hundred men.

The beginning of the refinery was inauspicious. The Wellsville Refining Company was incorporated on November 1, 1901, under the laws of the State of New York, with James H. McEwen as president; James Macken as vice-president; W. J. Richardson as treasurer; and A. C. Woodman as secretary. The refinery had a capacity of seven hundred barrels of crude oil a day, with several tanks and a building or two on fifteen acres of refinery property southward from Wellsville's village limits along the western banks of the Genesee River. Only one of the original officers, A. C. Woodman, lived to see the little refinery develop during the past few years in an expansion program which increased the plant's capacity to ten thousand barrels of crude oil per day, raised a dozen buildings and placed over three hundred tanks at the refinery's command.

The products of the little refinery—benzene, kerosene, steam-refined cylinder stocks and neutral oils were marketed by the Union Petroleum Company of Philadelphia, which owned substantial stock interests. The Union company gradually bought out other stockholders until in 1918 this company owned all the stock. The refinery previously had passed through a crisis between 1915-20 when production of oil began to drop rapidly in the Allegany field, reaching a record low in the history of the field. With flooding and repressuring, however, and the advent of "five-spotting," the field was saved and production again increased. For three years the Union Petroleum Company operated the refinery here, with A. C. Woodman as presi-

dent; Otto W. Walchli as vice-president; W. J. Richardson as treasurer; and R. A. Lish as secretary. About the year 1919 the local refinery was acquired by the Sinclair Refining Company, which did not, however, take over the active operation of the plant until 1923.

When Sinclair executives finally were convinced that with the water flooding and repressuring of the old wells, the refinery would be assured of an adequate crude supply for at least thirty to thirty-five years, an expansion program was begun in 1927. Included in the extensive additions to the plant were new stills, a new wax plant, machine shop, decolorizing plant, new barrel house, new boiler house and power plant, and many new tanks. These many additions and improvements gave employment to a large number of men for several years. A good proportion of the enlargement program was carried out during the depression years 1931-33, giving much needed employment to men at a time when other work was hard to find. Wellsville has reason to be justly proud of this large modern industry upon which it leans so heavily for its economic welfare.

Acme Electric Company—One of the most recent industries to locate in the county is the Acme Electric Company. This branch plant was established at Cuba in 1937 by the Acme Electric & Manufacturing Company of Cleveland. The products are small transformers for radio, neon signs, and other special applications. The plant is employing approximately two hundred people at the present time.

Guenther Hosiery Company: Friendship's most recent industry and the one which now has the largest number of employees is the Friendship plant of the Guenther Hosiery Company. They built a modern new plant for the manufacture of silk hosiery in the year 1921. A. L. Norton came to Friendship in that year to act as local manager. Mr. Norton is still manager of this company and they now have sixty to seventy employees.

Andover Silk Mill: In 1903 the citizens of Andover raised sufficient capital to establish a silk mill to be operated by the Rochambeau Silk Company, a corporation organized with French capital. The cost of the building was later paid back by the operating company to the citizens who furnished the funds for its construction. In the same year the Andover Stamping Plant was organized and a large three-story structure was built. The purpose of this plant was to manufacture enamelware. At one time nearly sixty-five persons were employed by this company. The original building was burned, but replaced with a concrete building.

Later the Rochambeau Silk Company sold its mill to Albert Godde, Bedin Company, another French concern, with headquarters in New York. This concern also bought the Andover Stamping Plant and used it, together with the Rochambeau Plant, in the manufacture of silk over a period of many years, employing at times 125 people. Branch plants were established for a few years at Wellsville, Depew and in Canada. During the depression, which began in 1929, operations were greatly diminished and the plant was finally closed in 1933. It opened again in 1937. In 1938 it was purchased by the Allegany Print Works, Incorporated, which has since operated it in a small way.

CHAPTER LXV

Natural Gas in Southwestern New York

By Wilber H. Young, Jr.

Early Evidences and Influences—Although the birth and rise of the natural gas industry in America can be placed solely in and around the village of Fredonia, Chautauqua County, New York, as a matter of record there were other evidences of natural gas noticed in the United States and other events of historical importance which even in those early days of slow communication must have had some influence on the pioneers along the Lake Erie shore.

As early as 1627 Father Joseph de la Roche d'Allion, a Franciscan friar, described by letter the existence of the now famous "oil spring" near Cuba Lake, Allegany County. Although definite data do not state, it is probable that bubbles of natural gas came up with the oil and emanated from the pool's surface. In 1775 George Washington dedicated to his country as a national park a strip of land in West Virginia on which was a "burning spring." Following the manufacture and use of coal gas in France and England in 1785 and 1792, a house was lighted in Boston in 1806 with manufactured gas and the first manufactured gas company was formed in Baltimore in 1816. In 1815 natural gas was known in the salt brine wells along the Muskingum and Ohio rivers and at Charleston, West Virginia, along the Kanawha River. In the year previous to the Fredonia discovery a well at Pittsburgh is reported to have caught fire from the gas coming out of the hole.

These extraneous happenings with natural and manufactured gas reached the ears of the leaders at Fredonia and they must have realized the effective use of the natural element they had to so quickly take hold of and use the small springs which presented themselves.

Birth of an Industry—The discovery of gas in Canadaway Creek at Fredonia is generally stated as occurring in 1821, but may have

been in 1820. Bubbles coming out of a crevice and through the water in the creek bed had been seen for a long time and by many, but it was by accident that the bubbles were found to be inflammable. Three rumors have it that either boys playing with a torch, a man lighting a pipe, or a woman with a lantern ignited the gas. Be that as it may, in the same year Edward Howard in deepening a water well for his gristmill found similar inflammable bubbles arising from the water. This aroused the curiosity of a friend of his, William A. Hart, to dig for the bubbles. Three holes were put down 40′ to 70′ deep and on the third attempt Mr. Hart was successful. He immediately constructed a rude gasometer within which to accumulate the gas, sheltered it and through ¾″ lead pipe took the gas across the street to light several stores and the Abell House hotel. Thus were established many "firsts" for the gas industry, namely production, storage, piping, and household lighting.

In 1825 when Lafayette visited Fredonia he writes of the use of natural gas for lighting and the local paper of November 30, 1825, carried an interesting account of the operations. Gas was piped from the 27′ well in lead pipes 25 feet distant to a 6′ x 8′ vat, 4′ deep, dug into solid rock. Over this pit full of water an inverted tank of sheet iron capable of holding 1,200 gallons was so set as to rise and fall in the water with the amount of gas present therein. From this gasometer more lead pipes went to the houses across the street. In the houses tin tubes served as pipe with burners on the end and small knitting-needle size holes afforded the light of two candles. Gas lights were priced at one-half the price of candles, and 150 lights were supplied from the gasometer.

In 1829 the village of Fredonia adopted a seal on which was depicted a vertical pipe leading to a horizontal burner from which five flames are jetting. About this same year Walter Smith failed in an attempt to use gas in a government lighthouse near Fredonia, and Judge Campbell succeeded, lighting the house with eleven burners for the price of the oil that had been used. Mr. Smith built two miles of pump log line to the lighthouse which was one hundred and fifty feet lower than his source of supply and failed because due to the gas' gravity it would go down only half way through his line.

In the year 1840 at Butler, Pennsylvania, the use of natural gas to evaporate salt brine is recorded as the first industrial use, but this may have been preceded by unrecorded events in the Fredonia area.

The first natural gas company was formed in 1858 when the Fredonia Gas Light Company started operations on a one-quarter-acre

strip of land, two rods wide. Preston Barmore had dug a well on this strip of land when Elias Forbes bought a one-half interest and the company was formed. The well was thirty feet deep and cistern-like, six feet in diameter at the surface and twenty feet in diameter at the bottom. From the bottom of the well two holes were drilled into the shale, one 100 feet, the other 150 feet. This combination of wells and cistern would produce about two thousand cubic feet per day. A twelve thousand cubic foot capacity gasometer was built and the gas taken into private residences. Within a few years the company had three miles of gas mains in the village.

Historical Development—Entirely apart from any of the local history of this area was the completion of Colonel Drake's oil well at Titusville in 1859, an event which ultimately came to have tremendous effect on the natural gas development in all southwestern New York. This discovery of oil led to the establishment of definite drilling procedure and the gradual expansion of drilling areas, both of which brought about the easier and faster development and expansion of natural gas production.

In 1860 the Fredonia Gas Light Company is accredited with the first use of mixed gas in the United States when they introduced manufactured coal gas into their lines and later mixed this with their own natural gas.

In the years from 1864 to 1874 there occurred a series of events, for the most part outside of the southwestern New York area, which were far reaching in their effect on our local area and on the future development of the gas industry. In 1864 oil was discovered in the Bradford, Pennsylvania, area and an unsuccessful attempt was made at Limestone, Cattaraugus County, to find oil. In 1865 the first large gas well in New York State was drilled at West Bloomfield, Ontario County. This well was 480 feet deep and flowed at the rate of two hundred thousand cubic feet of gas per day. Five years later the Rochester Natural Gas Light Company was incorporated and bought this well, starting the first long transportation line twenty-five miles to Rochester. The line was made of Canadian white pine timbers two feet to eight feet long and twelve and one-half inches in diameter. These were bored to eight inches diameter and fitted together at a ten-inch bell joint by dipping in hot tar and pounding together. Iron gate valves were used, many of which along with adjacent sections of the wooden pipe are today preserved in museums. After many hard-

ships and some labor trouble the line was completed in 1872 and gas delivered into Rochester. Due to the fact that the burners in use there had been designed for manufactured gas the light from the natural gas was unsatisfactory. The company failed and lost $1,500-000 for its stockholders. In this same year a five-mile long pipe line two inches in diameter served to light the village of Titusville, Pennsylvania, with the by-product gas of the local oil fields. In 1871 Alvah Colburn at Fredonia drilled a 1250-foot well to supply gas for his mill boilers. The supply was insufficient and he sold four thousand eight hundred cubic feet per day from the well to the local gas company at $1.00 per thousand cubic feet. In 1874 the first good oil well was drilled in the Bradford, Pennsylvania, field and started a program of wildcat drilling that quickly led to oil and gas wells in the Knapp Creek-Olean corner of Cattaraugus County.

Establishing a Business—About 1875 Mr. Colburn bought out the Fredonia Gas Light Company and began to drill extensively to supply gas for local consumers. He completed twelve wells ranging from three hundred feet to eight hundred feet deep, and thus assured the citizens, temporarily at least, of an adequate reserve of gas.

Four years after the first Bradford oil well, expansion had progressed so rapidly that in 1878 there were 250 wells in the Cattaraugus County end of the Bradford oil field, and wildcatting had extended as far as Alma Township, Allegany County, where the Wellsville and Alma Oil Company well on the Elliott farm, Lot 26, caught fire from gas found at four hundred feet. Wildcatting continued its active invasion of unknown areas to produce the first oil well in Allegany County, O. P. Taylor's Triangle No. 1, at Petrolia, Scio Township, on June 12, 1879. This well and others following it produced gas with the oil and were the real incentive for the future development of the southern Allegany County oil and gas pools. By 1880 an eighteen hundred-foot test had been made at Canaseraga, Burns Township, five wells to a depth of about two thousand feet had been drilled in vain in Rushford Township, and the Allegany County oil fields were in full swing. In 1881 we find the first sales of natural gas for light and fuel in the oil fields and by 1883 lines had been laid to Wellsville and the first public domestic sales were made at a price based on a per unit cost of so much for each stove, light, or other outlet, a far cry from the exact metering and uniform rates of today's gas sales. In 1882 New Hudson Township, Allegany County had two dry wells at a depth of two thousand feet. In 1884 we find record of

the coming competition between gas and coal. In that year a Pittsburgh company had 335 miles of city lines and was supplying gas equivalent to ten thousand tons of coal per day.

The year 1884 also marks another of the major steps in the gradual build up of gas, for it was then at Findlay, Ohio, that a deep oil and gas well to the Trenton limestone proved to others in the gas and oil business that holes could be put down deeper successfully and that there were deeper horizons where gas and oil might be found. Accordingly the Fredonia Gas and Fuel Company let a contract to J. W. Moore of Pennsylvania to drill two thousand feet at a price of $1.00 per foot. The well was started in October, 1886, and completed in March, 1887. Nothing was found at two thousand feet, so drilling went on to two thousand one hundred feet, where seven thousand cubic feet of gas per day was found in the Medina sandstone. This well when closed in built up to a 150 pounds per square inch pressure and represented a turning point in the development of the Chautauqua County lake shore areas. Previously the gas found and produced had come from shallow shale wells not over five hundred feet deep and of small daily flows. This new Medina production was to lead to bigger wells, as high as ten million, and higher shut in (rock) pressures.

Following the major oil field development in Allegany County came the opening and continued development of shallow wells producing gas only. These shallow wells, both oil and gas averaged about one thousand two hundred feet depth and produced from a formation of sandstones and shales known as the Chemung series of Upper Devonian time, some one thousand two hundred feet higher in the geological scale of formations than the shallow producing shales of the Fredonia area, and about three thousand feet higher than the Medina sandstone which had just been found to produce at Fredonia.

In the "gay nineties" gas development in southwestern New York took on a decided air of expansion of producing areas with at least four new discoveries, all in Cattaraugus County. In 1891 five miles south of Red House in what is now the Allegany State Park a small pool of gas was discovered and given that Indian village's name. In 1895 the Chipmunk oil and gas field was discovered lying east of Tunangwant Creek between the Pennsylvania State line and the Allegheny River. In 1897 the small oil and gas pool at Rice Brook in the State Park was opened up. The Red House pool in 1897 had a production of thirty million cubic feet per day and some of the wells

went as high as nine million cubic feet and two hundred pounds pressure initially. By 1899 gas in this pool was 90 per cent. exhausted, and the rock pressure was down to twenty pounds. In the latter part of the '90s two tests were unproductive in Allegany County, one one thousand nine hundred feet deep in Belfast Township, another 3,326 feet in Hume Township, the latter better known as the Buell well.

Near Gowanda on Cattaraugus Creek at the north boundary of Cattaraugus County Gaenssler and Fisher opened up a new and different producing pool with their No. 1 well in 1898. This well found seven million cubic feet of gas per day, at seven hundred pounds rock pressure, fifty feet in what is reported to be the Onondaga limestone. Three small wells had been found in the vicinity prior to 1898, but none of commercial value. By 1899 there were twenty wells in all and the field had been extended over into Erie County, Collins Township. In 1900 the Gowanda Gas Company had two hundred meters and sold about two million five hundred thousand cubic feet per day. Additional wells in the field came in as high as 10,000,000 cubic feet per day. It is now known as the Gowanda or Collins pool and has been very prolific.

By the turn of the century we find the natural gas industry well established in the tri-county area with production along the lake shore belt of Chautauqua County, at Gowanda in Cattaraugus County and along the southern edges of Cattaraugus and Allegany counties. Most of the villages in and around the producing areas are served with natural gas, and service is beginning to spread out into the middle of the counties where wildcatting has so far proven unsuccessful. The lake shore belt is beginning a major development of Medina production and shallow gas drilling in Allegany County is well under way. The installation of meters throughout southern Allegany County is well along but still behind the lake shore area.

In Allegany County most of the townships have been tested and found dry, only those in and near the oil fields producing any quantities of gas. Andover with a population of 1,000 is practically 100 per cent. gas consuming, supplied from the nearby Andover shallow field through the Mutual Gas Company. Alfred has 175 gas connections, Whitesville has a population of five hundred, mostly all gas users, and Greenwood two hundred population is likewise a "gas town" Hornell has six hundred to seven hundred consumers. Friendship and Belmont 600 meters, Genesee 47, Bolivar 257, Richburg 48, Allentown 52. Ceres is served with gas, as are many other

villages and communities. Companies serving these customers are the Mutual Gas Company at Andover, Empire Gas & Fuel Company at Wellsville, Allegany Gas Company at Friendship, Producers Gas Company at Olean, Cuba Gas Company at Cuba.

In Cattaraugus County the Gowanda Gas Company has developed the local field, a few small wells have been found at Versailles, and several townships in the unproductive middle county area have been found dry by wildcat tests. Production is maintained in the northern end of the county, but is showing signs of dropping off in the southern tier of townships.

In Chautauqua County, Mayville has two good wells out of three showing 190# and 450# pressure, delivering nine thousand cubic feet of gas per day from a depth of one thousand to one thousand two hundred feet. Many dry holes have been drilled in attempts to extend the ever increasing Medina production area along the lake.

Later Development—The period between 1900 and 1928 was one of gradual expansion of the natural gas industry with steadily increasing volumes of production, wells and sales up to about 1920, followed by a pronounced decline in production to 1928. The areas found productive increased in extent throughout the counties and some wildcat ventures were successful, although many counties proven dry or tested dry. The number and scope of companies increased in the early years of the period as the boom in gas sales afforded many independent small operators the chance to get into the gas business. In the latter half of the period this movement was counteracted as the larger companies began buying out the smaller producers and consolidating their own holdings.

In 1904 the South Shore Gas Company and Silver Creek Gas & Improvement Company opened up several very productive Medina wells at around one thousand seven hundred feet depth. Other companies in this area were the Brocton Gas & Fuel Company and Frost Gas Company. In 1909 an interesting deep test by the Burns Oil & Gas Company at Canaseraga, Burns Township, Allegany County encountered a show of gas at three hundred feet and penetrated salt beds at three thousand one hundred feet without proving production. The South Shore Gas Company found good Medina production at Forestville, Chautauqua County and had thirty-two wells between Silver Creek and Dunkirk in 1909. Further exploration of the old Zoar field found gas at two thousand five hundred feet and at three thousand three hundred feet. During 1910-12 the lake shore belt

maintained production principally by deeper drilling in old areas rather than extension into new developments. In 1913 we find that the southern tier of Allegany and Cattaraugus counties is being exploited to the limit and that the tri-county area with adjacent Erie County's lake shore belt production account for ninety per cent. of the total gas produced in New York State. Between 1913 and 1922 a second small gas pool below the big Red House field and a small gas pool in the English Brook Valley were discovered in the Allegany State Park area of Cattaraugus County. In 1915 the City of Bradford (Pennsylvania) Gas & Power Corporation, principal operator in the Red House pool, produced one million five hundred thousand cubic feet per day. This production dropped to three hundred thousand per day in 1922, when the properties were abandoned.

In 1916 H. L. Doherty began banding together the smaller lake shore companies of Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Erie counties, and in 1919 joined all these companies under the name of the Republic Light, Heat & Power Company. At the present date this company and the Iroquois Gas Corporation control the majority of the Medina lake shore production.

The years of 1920 and 1921 saw the end of major shallow gas drilling in the southern tier of Allegany and Cattaraugus counties due to the fact that the then existing fields had been proven and drilled to their limit and no new shallow fields were discovered by the continuous wildcatting which always accompanies productive drilling. By 1926 the cessation of drilling and exhaustion of production from these fields became evident, despite the maintenance of production to the north, in the declining production figures for New York State.

Recent Advances—With the declining production from shallow sand areas affecting the southern companies decidedly came the usual quest for more gas and, as at Fredonia in 1887, deeper horizons were investigated. Production from Oriskany sand had been known in Ohio and shows of gas had been reported at about that horizon (just below the Onondaga limestone) from a few wildcats scattered throughout the area.

After several unsuccessful attempts to find gas in deeper sands, the Belmont Quadrangle Drilling Corporation completed a well on the Gilbert farm, two miles north of Richburg, Wirt Township, Allegany County, in September, 1928. Although this well had an open flow of four million cubic feet per day from the Tully limestone at a depth of four thousand feet, it was believed at the time to be the

Oriskany sandstone and served as an impetus to the further exploration and development of deep gas. Following the discovery and proving of large quantities of gas in the true Oriskany sandstone in the Wayne-Dundee field in Schuyler-Yates-Steuben counties in 1930 many deep wells were drilled in Allegany County. Despite the drilling of 50 per cent. of the total wells in the county as dry holes, the discovery of new gas fields or gas in new townships, has progressed with astounding regularity, marked by the following years:

1932—Allen Township. S. J. Brendels' Sheldon #1 completed at 2,964 feet in the Oriskany sandstone with two hundred thousand cubic feet and some salt water. Of ten other wells in the vicinity six were dry and four had only small flows of gas with slight quantities of oil.

1934—Willing Township. Sinclair Refining Company's Ryan #1 completed at 4,835 feet in the Oriskany for fourteen million cubic feet of gas and some salt water at a rock pressure of 2,010 pounds per square inch.

1935—Alma Township. Empire Gas & Fuel Company's Dean #1 completed in same field as Ryan #1, but a separate structure, for forty million at a depth of 4,627 feet. This and the Ryan well are now part of the most prolific Oriskany gas field in New York State, the so-called State Line Field containing 2,750 acres, twenty-six gas wells, six dry holes, and having produced to date over fifty billion cubic feet of gas.

1935—Belfast Township. J. C. Trees *et al* completed the Murray Estate well at 3,207 feet in Oriskany sand for two hundred thousand feet of gas and slight quantities of oil at a rock pressure of 1,390 pounds. Three other wells in the area found salt water and no gas, and the area has not been produced.

1936—Angelica Township. Wittmer Oil & Gas Company's Snyder #1 with two hundred thousand cubic feet at 4,061 feet and one thousand four hundred pounds is one of three wells, the other two dry, in an unproven area.

1938—Willing Township. Belmont Quadrangle Drilling Corporation opened a new field with their Hilligas #1 at 4,822 feet for eleven and one-half million at 1,970 pounds per square inch rock pressure. This field to date has produced over eight billion cubic feet of gas. There are now twenty wells in the field, twelve of which are or have been producers, and eight salt water wells. Only one well in the field is at present producing without some evidence of salt water, as the field reaches 80 per cent. depletion.

1938—Independence Township. Belmont Quadrangle's Livermore #1 drilled into Oriskany sandstone late in the year to find thirteen million feet of gas and salt water at 4,752 feet.

1939—Penn York Natural Gas Corporation completed a well in Andover Township, December 17, on the Padden Estate farm for

twelve million open flow and two thousand pounds pressure at 4,629 feet. Salt water coming into the well shortly after production was started soon drowned it out and caused the rapid abandonment of three offset drilling wells. One well completed was dry. At the present time another well is drilling to offset the abandoned producer.

1940—On April 3, 1940, Empire Gas & Fuel Company's #1 Sam Crandall in Independence Township came in blowing wild at over fifty million cubic feet per day and a spray of salt water. Oriskany sand was encountered at 4,912 feet depth. After twenty-one days of continuous effort the well was shut in and completed with a rock pressure of 1,590 pounds. Offset drilling is now in progress.

Empire Gas & Fuel Company's C. A. Wilson #1, also in Independence Township, was completed at 4,614 feet in the Oriskany sand on May 31, 1940. This well had an open flow of sixteen million and a rock pressure of 1,820 pounds.

The Oriskany developments in Allegany County have far overshadowed recent developments elsewhere in the tri-county area. Many dry holes have been drilled to test the Oriskany in Allegany County and a few tests have been made in Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties with no success, the major Oriskany development and drilling having taken place in the northern tier of Pennsylvania counties and eastward in Steuben County and the Finger Lake region of New York. From present drilling data the existence of Oriskany sand under the major part of Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties is somewhat doubtful.

In 1931 a small amount of gas production was encountered in shallow sands in Sunfish Run and Hotchkiss Hollow near the Allegany State Park.

In 1933 Belmont Quadrangle Drilling Corporation and Leon Gas Company drilled a successful well to the Medina in Leon Township, Cattaraugus County. Since that time five producing wells have been completed in the area at depths ranging from 3,541 feet to 3,823 feet. Original rock pressure in the field was 1,235 pounds per square inch, and initial open flows ranged from fifty thousand to three million two hundred thousand cubic feet per day. Iroquois Gas Corporation markets the gas from the field through their distribution system.

Several wells in the southern part of the tri-county area and eastward have been deepened to the Medina without success.

Present Status—The present situation in the natural gas industry is very alarming as, despite the recent advances in production from Oriskany sandstone fields, the end of present known reserves is very definitely in sight.

The tremendous volumes of Oriskany wells and fields and the high rock pressures found not only gave southwestern New York a tremendous increase in gas production, but it also attracted many other companies into the competition for this production. This competition has resulted in a division of acreage holdings in the major fields and competitive drilling and withdrawals. Gas will migrate through the producing sand at a rate which renders delay in competitive withdrawal a serious loss. With the beginning of Oriskany production, markets to take care of this quick volume of production were not available and as a result big industrial loads at cheap prices were sought for and secured. These large loads under contract agreements have literally wasted what would have otherwise been an excellent reserve supply of domestic fuel and have run reserves of Oriskany gas down to a point where it has been suicidal. Within the six months between October, 1939, and April, 1940, at least 80 per cent. of these industrial loads have been cancelled, often at great loss to producer and consumer, because of exhaustion of supply. This will no doubt help to balance supply and demand to a certain extent, but in the meantime domestic loads have also increased over what they were in 1928 and more gas than is now in reserve must be found before the 1940-41 winter demand comes on.

As practically all gas companies in the tri-county area are affected by this Oriskany gas shortage, even those in the lake shore belt, the occasional drilling and steady production from that belt over the past and future years will no more than assure a minimum supply, a minimum which is too low for present needs.

Future Prospects—With the present status of gas reserves none too satisfactory what does the future hold? The best prospects, that is those easiest to find and develop have already been proven. The area in Allegany County alone which produces Oriskany gas amounts to only one-half of 1 per cent. of the total area of the county. Ruling out one-half of the remaining area as being geologically not a fair prospect for Oriskany gas production, and cutting this remainder in half again as having been already tested, there still remain two hundred and fifty square miles of Allegany County to be thoroughly tested. Present Oriskany production comes from less than ten square miles of the county's area. The writer feels certain that more Oriskany production will be found in Allegany County, but that it will take at least twice as long, will be at least twice as hard, and will cost at

least twice as much to find an amount equivalent to that which has already been produced.

With regard to Medina production the present lake shore belt seems to be quite definitely limited as to capacity, if not as to proven production. Additional wells may be discovered and new pools opened up, but it will be a slow process and a hard one and production will in all probability not be sensational. The same process will no doubt apply to Medina development in the southern and middle districts of the three counties. There is a large area of Medina possibilities to be prospected and there are many pitfalls in seeking gas from the Medina, but it is a producing horizon that we know has gas in it in certain places. There are also other horizons underlying the counties which have produced gas elsewhere, but they lie at even deeper depths below the surface, a factor increasing both the expense of exploration and the likelihood of success.

In the present status of major pipe lines throughout the country with large gas mains crossing half the United States it is easily possible to bring gas into the three southwestern New York counties from distant fields outside the State.

Elements of an Industry

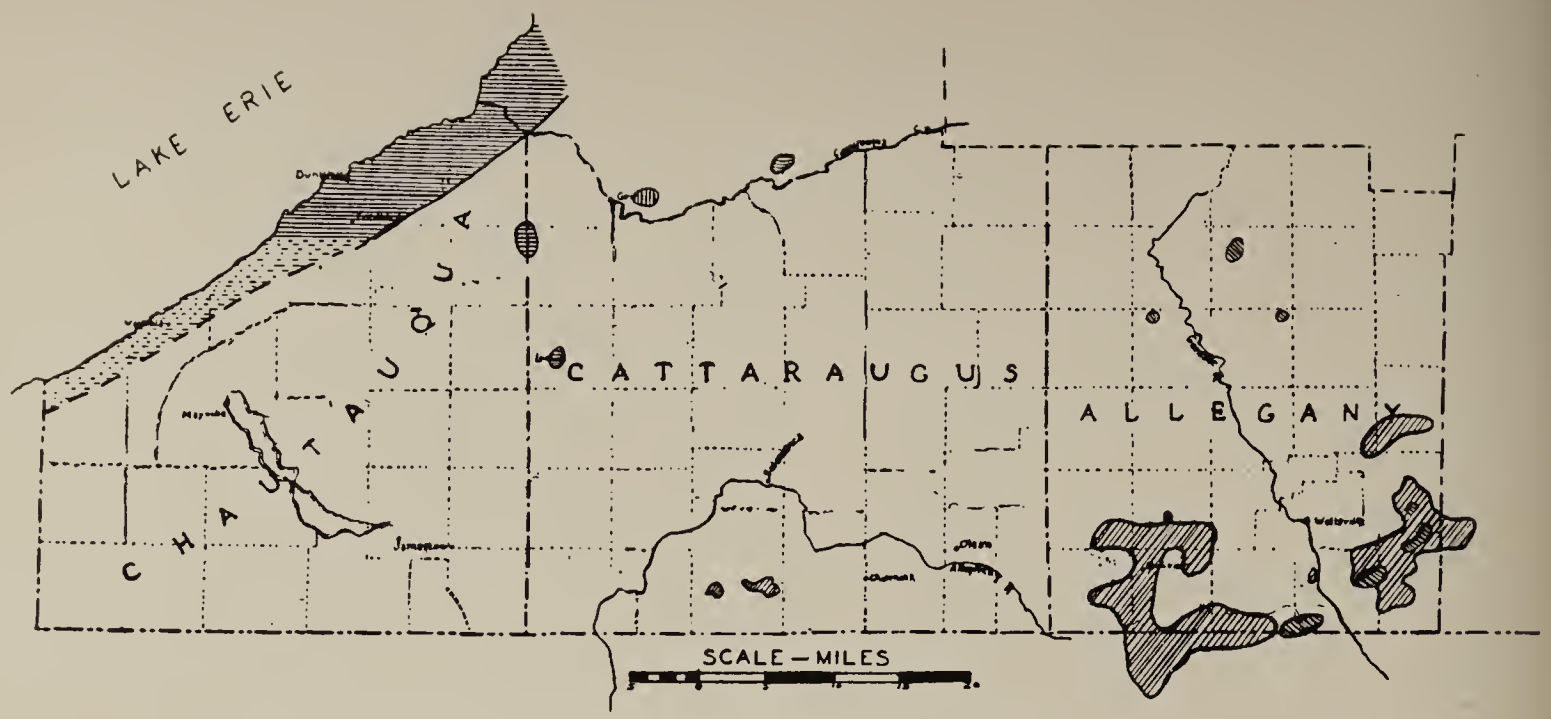
Areas of Production—Primary among the elements that go to make up the natural gas business of Allegany, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties are the areas from which this natural wealth is taken. On the accompanying pages are two maps, one of the oil producing areas, a second of the gas producing areas. The oil producing areas have been included because they are with very few exceptions gas producing as well. Unlike many of the great Texas and Oklahoma fields, and even the Bradford, Pennsylvania, field, the majority of the gas from the oil fields of Allegany County, produced along with the oil, has not been wasted, but has either been sold and used in the oil fields for fuel, or transported to nearby villages for domestic use.

Inspection of the map reveals the comparatively small areas which have produced gas. Unfortunately space does not permit the outlining of areas tested for the different producing formations and found unproductive.

Volumes and Value of Gas—Without a complete set of figures available for the production of natural gas in the three counties, a table of total New York State production is listed below. With the exception of Erie County which has been a big producer throughout the years and the recent production (since 1934) from Oriskany

fields in Steuben, Schuyler and Yates counties, Allegany, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties have produced over half of the total State production.

Year	Production Millions cu. ft.	Value $1,000	Price ¢/1,000 cu. ft.	Wells Drilled
1892	....	216	...	...
1897	....	200	...	359
1898	....	229	...	422
1899	....	295	...	449
1900	....	335	...	504
1901	....	293	...	557
1902	....	346	...	626
1903	....	494	...	700
1904	2,400	552	23.0	744
1905	2,639	607	23.0	839
1906	3,007	767	25.5	919
1907	3,052	800	26.2	925
1908	3,860	989	25.6	1,100
1909	3,825	1,145	30.0	1,280
1910	4,816	1,412	29.3	1,340
1911	5,128	1,547	30.2	1,403
1912	6,565	1,882	28.7	1,660
1913	8,555	2,549	29.8	1,750
1914	8,715	2,570	29.5	1,797
1915	7,810	2,335	29.9	2,051
1916	8,036	2,355	29.3	2,068
1917	8,372	2,499	29.9	2,078
1918	8,461	2,820	33.3	2,114
1919	8,124	2,870	35.3	1,961
1920	8,419	3,195	37.9	1,972
1921	6,583	2,798	42.5	1,949
1922	6,947	3,379	48.6	....
1923	6,497	3,739	57.5	...
1924	6,196	3,632	58.6	...
1925	6,210	3,778	60.8	....
1926	7,027	4,499	64.1	....
1927	5,908	3,841	65.0	....
1928	7,224	4,827	66.8	....
1929	8,387	5,538	66.0	....
1930	9,624	6,433	66.8	....
1931	7,868	5,366	68.1	....
1932	8,813	6,124	69.5	....
1933	6,865	4,838	70.5	....
1934	6,278	4,408	70.2	....
1935	8,288	5,909	71.3	....
1936	12,431	8,645	69.5	....
1937	21,325	12,390	58.1	....
1938	20,000	.....	...	....
1939	.....	.....	...	....
1940	....	.....	...	....



GAS POOLS OF SOUTHWESTERN NEW YORK

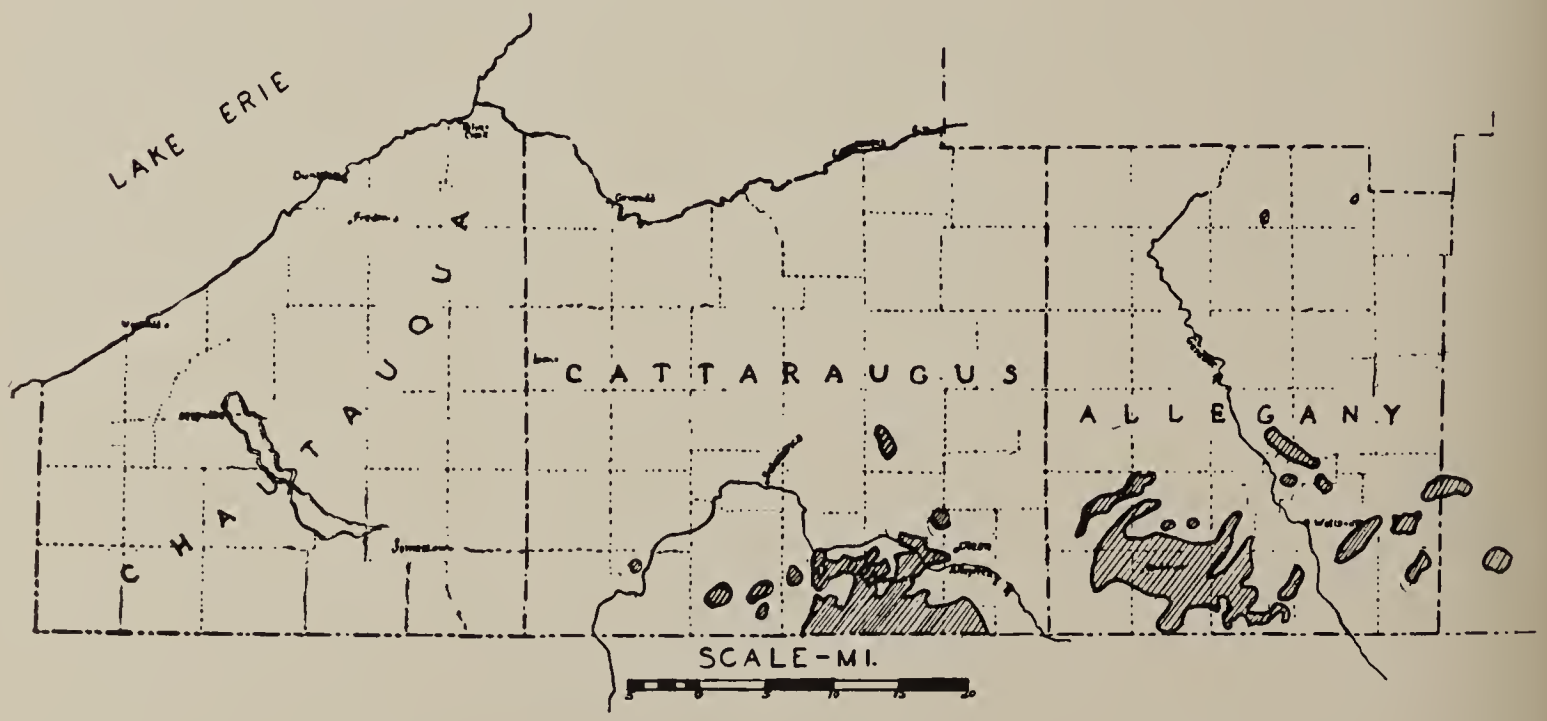
SHALLOW PRODUCTION

ORISKANY PRODUCTION

MEDINA PRODUCTION

SCATTERED MEDINA PRODUCTION

ONONDAGA PRODUCTION



OIL POOLS OF SOUTHWESTERN NEW YORK

The production figures for Allegany, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties that are available are presented herewith:

Year	Value
1904	$215,652
1905	230,662
1906	341,553
1907	356,570
1908	417,755
1909	457,661
1910	540,181
1911	624,954
1912	1,767,016
1913	2,444,763

Companies Serving the Area—At the present time there are two major companies and many smaller ones either producing, buying, transporting, marketing, or distributing gas to local and distant consumers in the three counties. The more important ones, those with operating revenues over $10,000 are listed below, as taken from the 1938 New York State Public Service Commission report, with the principal areas served:

Pennsylvania Gas Co.—Southeastern Chautauqua County.
Republic Light, Heat & Power, Inc.—Northern Chautauqua County.
Cabot Gas Corporation—Central Allegany County.
Keystone Gas, Inc.—Southwestern Allegany County; southeastern Cattaraugus County.
Empire Gas & Fuel Co., Ltd.—Southern Allegany County.
Producers Gas Company—Western Allegany County; eastern Cattaraugus County.
Northwestern New York Gas Co.—Northern Chautauqua County.
Gowanda Gas Corporation—Northwestern Cattaraugus County.
Iroquois Gas Corporation—Cattaraugus County.

In addition to the above listed companies, other companies operating in the three counties are:

Penn York Natural Gas Corporation.
North Penn Gas Company.
Southwestern Development Company.
Belmont Quadrangle Drilling Corporation.
Godfrey L. Cabot, Inc.
Sylvania Corporation.
Hanley and Bird.
Cunningham Natural Gas Corporation.

Pipe Lines—Among the major natural gas pipe lines traversing the three counties we find the Penn York's main line through Allegany County running north from the State line Oriskany fields to distribution centers along the Lake Erie shore, Cabot Gas Corporation's large line running along the Genesee River in Allegany County from the State line fields to Rochester, Iroquois' main line through western Cattaraugus County running north from Pennsylvania fields to distribution points in northern Cattaraugus County and to Buffalo, and Home Gas Company's four parallel lines, formerly oil lines of the National Transit Company, running eastward from Olean across southern Allegany County and along the southern tier to Binghamton.

For these main lines there are thousands of miles of tributary main distributing arteries, local distributing lines, local service lines to dwellings and gathering lines. The other companies listed in the preceding pages also have thousands of miles of gathering, main, distributing and service lines.

References

The author wishes to acknowledge the authentic information contributed by H. P. Nagel of the Republic Light, Heat & Power Corporation with respect to the early history of the Fredonia, New York, discovery and subsequent developments in that vicinity.

Reference is made for further reading and data to:

"Natural Gas Handbook," J. C. Diehl; American Meter Co., 1927.
"History of the Genesee Country," Vol. II, Chap. XLIII, by Lewis H. Thornton, 1925.
"History of the Gas Industry," Stotz and Jamison; Stettiner Bros., 1938.
American Gas Association publications.
New York State Museum bulletins.

CHAPTER LXVI

New York State Produces Oil for the World

By Rae L. Rowan

The historian, according to most generally accepted principles, concerns himself mainly with the recitation of a true story which has been part of man's existence. He looks only to the cold facts, the dates, the names of people and places and the job of preserving for posterity a series of events which go together in making up his chosen work.

We have drawn freely from the valuable data in the histories of the petroleum industry in New York State, written by Lewis H. Thornton, of Wellsville, for the "Allegany County History" of 1895, known as the county's centennial memorial volume; and in the "History of the Genesee Country," published in 1925. Most of this large amount of material is from original sources and will forever constitute one of the bases of local oil history.

The task which we find before us is with limited space in which to tell our story. We are also faced, however, with the job of telling the story, and in its telling, bring to those who read this chapter an idea of the far-reaching effects on the economics of the people, and the advancement of machinery made possible by petroleum the first mention of which in America in 1627 came from its presence in the Seneca Indian oil spring located in Allegany County, New York.

Oil from New York and Pennsylvania has been of very great value ever since it became commercially available; but we predict, as a matter of record, that many years from now the story of the present World War will be written and in its writing there must be a chapter pertaining to the enormously valuable part which Pennsylvania grade crude oil played in the aviation which appears now to be one of the dominating factors.

The Seneca Indian oil spring which antedates in its history any other mention of petroleum on this continent, is located near Cuba,

Allegany County, and it was about oil from that spring that Friar de la Roche d'Allion wrote to Europe in 1627.

Other Seneca Oil Spring Records—Several other records of the Seneca Oil Spring have been made, but its main contribution to the industry itself from a commercial and economic standpoint is slight. Its contribution to legend and human interest stories is great, but we must confine ourselves in the space allotted to the development of the industry commercially.

The first commercially valuable oil well in the United States was completed August 27, 1859 in Pennsylvania by Colonel Edward Drake and a group of pioneers. Almost twenty years later—on July



(Courtesy of the Wellsville Daily Reporter)

ORIGINAL OFFICE OF THE WELLSVILLE REFINING COMPANY, WHERE THE SINCLAIR REFINING COMPANY NOW OPERATES ITS LARGEST EASTERN REFINERY, ABOUT THIRTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

12, 1879—O. P. Taylor's Triangle No. 1 was completed near what is now the hamlet of Petrolia in Allegany County, and New York State's commercial oil industry was born.

Thousands of colorful paragraphs could be written about the early days of the oil business in New York State, but much of this color adds little to the factual history of an industry which in a few years shoved agriculture to a place of second importance in Allegany County.

Today it is estimated there are over fourteen thousand five hundred oil wells in a small section of this county and a much smaller section of nearby Cattaraugus County. Yet the tourist of 1940 can drive miles and see but a few of these thousands of wells.

In Wellsville and Bolivar the visitor will be impressed by the large Sinclair Refining Company plant and the Allegany Refiners plant in our neighboring village. The Wellsville Sinclair plant is reputed to be the largest refinery in the world solely refining Pennsylvania grade crude oil.

At Olean the visitor will be told that the city was once the home of one of the greatest oil storage places in the world. But the colorful pictures of the early oil boom days are gone.

The rough and ready prospector of early days has become a well dressed, hard-headed business man whose efforts are confined to scientific study of his business.

Geologist an Important Figure Today—The divining rod has been replaced by the highly trained geologist and petroleum engineer. The so-called "dry hole" is rarer, and new wells are drilled in certain areas with the sureness with which one plants seeds in the garden and knows that a few weeks hence will bring flowers into bloom.

The first real oil well was probably drilled in the New York State field where the village of Whitesville now stands. This well was completed in 1866, but had only a small showing of oil and was not commercially profitable. Its only claim to fame today lies in its priority. It was located in Whitesville about one thousand two hundred to one thousand five hundred feet south of the main street on the Cryder Creek. Among those interested financially in this venture were Levi Quimby and Lewis Horton. Several years later Tadder & Company drilled another well in this same great lot 51. This well reportedly produced for a short time, and old residents say some oil was seen on the surface of the creek. The quantity, however, was not commercially important.

Whitesville was the scene of other tests, but it was not until several years after Taylor's Triangle well was completed that oil in paying quantities was found in Whitesville. Later a field comprising several hundred acres was defined and developed. There is considerable production in the area today.

Unverified reports claim that a test well was also drilled at Limestone, New York, in Cattaraugus County in either 1865 or 1866.

These reports, if true, would locate the first two test wells in New York State, but for a historical factual record the verified Whitesville test may take first place.

Triangle No. 1, however, will always stand as New York State's first successful oil well, and it is marked today by a monument made from a native boulder and a bronze tablet. Members of the New York State Oil Producers Association did this work. Triangle No. 1 was the first flowing well, the first paying well and its birth marked the real beginning of the State's commercially important oil industry of today.

Other Allegany County Tests—Other tests in Allegany County included Pikeville No. 1, drilled by Ben Thomas of the Bottom Dollar Oil Company, organized by James Thornton, George Howard and others of Wellsville. These interests were later sold to O. P. Taylor. The test may have made a small well, but at that time such production would not pay out. Another almost forgotten test was a well drilled on the I. J. Elliott farm on Lot 26 in South Alma. This well was drilled by the same Ben Thomas in 1877 for the Wellsville & Alma Oil Company. It was not completed until 1878 because fire broke out when gas was struck at a depth of four hundred or five hundred feet and the rig destroyed. Public-spirited citizens of Wellsville raised more money to complete the well with a small showing of oil found at a depth of 1050 feet.

The next important chapter in the early history was written by O. P. Taylor's Wyckoff well on the north middle of Lot 36 in the town of Alma at the head of the north branch of Fords Brook. Considerable sand was found but little oil. It was, however, the high gravity greenish oil found in the Wyckoff which prompted Taylor to locate Triangle No. 1 on the Crandall farm, Lot 4 in the town of Scio. His guess was correct and a good oil sand was found from 1,126 to 1,153 feet with the well completed at 1,177 feet. The hole filled with seven hundred feet of oil after the shot and flowed freely with a head of eight to ten barrels when tubed.

Wellsville newspapers carried thousands of words of comment, and Triangle No. 1 turned Taylor overnight from the butt of much criticism to a public hero. The discovery of oil in paying quantities buried previous failures and the wildcat operator renewed much of the public confidence which had been fading rapidly. Taylor was, for a time, even charged with holding back operations and failing to develop a field which appeared possible.

Triangle Production Overestimated—The period of adulation was brief, however, and the production and life of Triangle No. 1 was greatly overestimated. In a few weeks the production dropped to a few barrels and the next three test wells in the area came in dry or so close to it that they were abandoned. A new gloom settled over Wellsville, but not on the spirit of O. P. Taylor.

He soon completed Triangle No. 2 in the spring of 1880 with a production better than No. 1. Triangle No. 3, about two thousand five hundred feet south of No. 1, was completed July 4, 1880, and described by P. C. Boyle, veteran oil editor, as a twenty-five-barrel well. The actual production for the first thirty days was accurately gauged at 301.65 barrels. This oil was the amount in the tank, and lost production would have probably brought the total up to about four hundred barrels. O. P. Taylor was again the man of the hour and the Colonel Drake of Allegany County.

The market dropped in 1879 below that of 1878 and there were hints from the Pennsylvania section that development of the New York State field might be partly to blame. The years which have passed, however, record times of either overproduction or underproduction with every effort to stabilize the business a failure. Such will probably always be the lot of those who drill for and produce nature's liquid gold.

The boom oil period was being born and in July, 1880 the "Wellsville Reporter" carried an article which stated that all hotels were full and doing a rushing business. On the old registers are found such names as Lyman Stewart, who was later to become president of the Union Oil Company of California; K. H. McBride and James Amm, who became multimillionaires in the business; Charles Collins, Joseph Evans, James Leonard, Hostetter, Shirley, and scores of others who rose to leadership in oil circles.

Up until this point, Wellsville had held the center of the stage, but then came a trend which saw the field moving away from there south and west of the Genesee River. Leases had been taken east of the Genesee and Taylor planned tests in Fulmer Valley and Trapping Brook sections.

Richburg Becomes Center of Field—Triangle City, later to become Petrolia, was the first oil boom town. Allentown, named after the vigorous and successful Riley Allen, was soon born with Richburg and Bolivar becoming the oil meccas of the county.

It was at this point that Crandall Lester, of Richburg, came into the picture and with the aid of Edward Bliss and A. B. Cottrell of

Richburg leased a big block of land near the village. He induced Herman and Ward Rice, of Friendship, to join him, and Riley Allen divided his interest with O. P. Taylor. Mr. Lester drilled the famous old Richburg gusher with an estimated first day production of three



(Courtesy of the Wellsville Daily Reporter)

GAS WELL FIRE AT WILLING, ALLEGANY COUNTY, WHICH BURNED FOR THREE DAYS

hundred barrels. This well was completed April 27, 1881. The well moved the heart of the Allegany field to the new area, and when another big well was drilled on the Ransom Fuller farm a little north of Richburg, Wellsville definitely lost its place in the boom sun of those days.

Other heavy producers followed in rapid succession with six hundred wells drilled in Allegany County in 1881 and one thousand six hundred wells in 1882. The average daily production for that year in the county was placed at eighteen thousand barrels.

Such a situation immediately brought the typical rush of prospectors, gamblers, crooks and every type of man and woman who follows strikes into the heart of Mother Nature's valuable reserves of natural resources. It would take pages to record the stories of these boom towns, but in other volumes and journals of the day are found such stories, so we find it necessary to refer our readers who may be interested to these works of other pens.

One of the best of such articles was written for the "New York Sun" by John P. Herrick, then publisher of the "Bolivar Breeze." The story was published in 1895, and entitled "Richburg's Year of Glory."

Boom Period Over in Two Years—Two years saw the end of this boom period and rapidly Allegany County's oil business settled down to quiet profitable operations. By this time the western fields were beginning to attract some prospectors, and in a few years the center of oil interest had moved into those flush fields which today bring the producers headaches and problems of a financial nature.

This situation is more clearly pictured by a few statistics. In 1881 there were 518 wells drilled in Allegany County. In 1882 this figure rose to 1,605 wells, fell to 1,270 in 1883, to 500 in 1884 and continued to decrease until 1888 when only forty-one were drilled. A total of nine hundred wells are said to have been drilled in the New York State field in 1939.

During this early period production also had its ups and downs. Only five thousand barrels were produced in 1880, but in 1881 this figure leaped to six hundred and six thousand. In 1882 the production for the year was six million four hundred and fifty thousand barrels, with four million eight hundred thousand produced in 1883, and but four hundred thousand in 1884. This State's total production in 1939 was approximately five million barrels.

The production in 1885 and 1886 was about two and one-half million barrels annually, and for the next few years the annual production was about one and one-quarter million barrels per year.

In one sense of the word it may be said that the romance of the New York State oil industry was born and died in these few brief early years. This is not entirely true. Almost any night, in this year

of 1940, somewhere in the field there will be gathered a little group of men "drilling in" an oil well. There is something about that moment which excites even the hardest of the oil field workers. Of course, some of the attraction has grown from the necessity of accurate measurements by which to space the shot of nitroglycerine which brings the crowning glory of a completed oil well.

Some Romance Still Remains—But more than that there is always present a certain expectancy which comes with the tapping of the earth's crust in search for her vast store of valuable natural resources. A "drilling in" will always remain an event and always stir the hearts of the producer and the men who for days and nights guided the tools slowly toward the oil sand.

We often wonder, however, whether the spirit of O. P. Taylor and others of those pioneers ever hovers over the "drilling in" when the well is drilled for what is termed a water hole. To them it would no doubt appear almost a sin to turn heavy producing oil wells into a mere channel for water used in flooding operations which have brought to the New York and Pennsylvania oil fields a new life and its present importance in the Nation's total production.

But, while these spirits wonder at the present flooding process, we of this generation must sigh for the millions of barrels of this valuable paraffine base crude oil which went up in the flames of coal oil lamps as kerosene, when today its prime importance is that of furnishing high grade lubricants for man's modern machinery.

It was this trend which brought new life to a decadent business shortly after the turn of the century when the demand for motor lubricants started to increase. For the past forty years or more the trend in development of the New York field has been toward the utilization of thousands of small producing wells over a long period of time rather than the hope or search for great gushers. Better machinery, more economical operating methods and conservation have been the key factors in this new trend. This age is interesting to the engineer and the men directly connected with the industry, but for the romantic there is nothing left except high grade gasoline to run his car and a high grade lubricant to extend the useful years of driving in his motor.

The present New York State field covers about sixty thousand acres in southwestern New York State in portions of Allegany and Cattaraugus counties. Much the larger of the two fields is located in southern Allegany county extending into the edge of Steuben County on the county's eastern border. A much smaller field exists in Cat-

taraugus County and today the two fields comprise all of New York State's profitable oil producing country.

The Different Pools are Listed—The so-called Bolivar-Richburg pool comprises about three-quarters of the area of Bolivar Township, half of Alma, about a third of Wirt, a quarter of Genesee, an eighth of Clarksville, and a small part of southeastern Scio Township. The greatest length of thirteen miles runs from east to west and through central Bolivar the extent is about six miles north to south.

The Clarksville pool, as it is called, is not connected with the huge Bolivar pool and is a rather narrow streak about six miles long from the northwestern corner of Wirt Township, southwesterly well down into Clarksville. This small pool has been the scene of increased activity during the past two years.

The Scio pool is about three and one-half miles long and a half mile wide. It is located in the northeastern corner of the township and contained 470 wells in 1924, and covers about one thousand five hundred acres of territory.

The Fords Brook field lies partly in northwestern Alma Township and partly in Willing. The field is about three miles long from north to south and about a half mile wide. It has been developed in what is known as the third and fourth sands, and is now one of the productive areas in the New York field. Its main development has been done along careful scientific lines and much of its present importance is due to the study which has been given this rather unusual field.

The Fulmer Valley pool is also one of the smaller areas running from north central Willing through Wellsville and into Andover Township. It is about five miles long and a mile wide.

Smallest of all the Allegany pools is the Madison Hill field. It lies in north central Wellsville and comprises about two hundred acres of territory. The sand is about the same as that found in the Scio field, but a dry streak lies between the two areas.

There is another small pool in southcentral Andover east of the Fulmer Valley area and a small pool in northwestern Andover which extends into Greenwood Township, Steuben County.

The most easterly pool in the United States is called "The Marsh" and lies a few miles east of the Independence pool. It covers about one and one-third square miles of area, mostly in Steuben County.

The Cattaraugus County field, or State Line Pool, as it was once called, is an extension of the famous Bradford field. The field lies along the State line southwest of Olean in the Rock City-Knapp

Creek area. It extends a distance of about eleven miles east and west with an irregular width of about three miles north and south. There is a tongue of producing sand which juts six miles north to the village of Allegany. The southern parts of the townships of Olean, Allegany and Carrollton are in this pool. Other small pools in the Cattaraugus County field are the Chipmunk pool in the towns of Allegany and Carrollton; the small Rice Brook pool; the little Red House pool, and a small producing area in the township of Humphrey.

In Allegany County the oil sand is about five hundred feet below surface along the Genesee River Valley bottom, and about one thousand eight hundred feet below surface at the top of Alma Hill and White Hill in the township of Alma.

The Flooding Process is Born—It is interesting to note that the thing which brought new life and prosperity to New York State's oil fields—the flooding process—was made illegal the very year that old Triangle No. 1 gushed forth its liquid gold in Petrolia.

The flooding process, as commonly understood, is a method whereby water is forced into certain wells on a lease in order to expedite the movement of oil through the sand. The most common method of this procedure is known as "the five spot," where four water wells are drilled into the oil bearing sand at the four corners of a square, the area of which is now usually about two acres. At the intersections of diagonals drawn from the four corners of the square a fifth well to be used for the production of crude oil is drilled.

The set-up, as described in the preceding chapter, of course applies to the first five-spot on the lease, and the development of adjacent five spots utilizes two of the original water wells, making it necessary to drill only two more water wells to complete a second five spot. Thus by drilling six water wells, proper flooding is provided for two producing wells and over the entire area of the lease this interlocking pattern results in the drilling of approximately one water well to each producing well.

A water well differs but little in cost from a completed oil well. It is drilled in the same manner and just as deep into the oil bearing sands. Certain surface equipment is eliminated but other expenditures in the preparation of the water well bring its cost up to almost equal that of a producing oil well. A completed project of at least forty acres including all equipment will cost an average of about $2,000 per well. This average price is based on 1940 costs and applies to both water and producing oil wells. In other words, such a develop-

ment program would cost about $2,500 per acre or a total of $100,000 for a forty-acre lease.

At the present time, theoretical study is being made in petroleum engineering circles of the possibility of a "seven spot," or a "nine spot," or even an "eleven spot." As yet this subject has not reached the test stage due to its initial cost and the uncertainty as to whether the return would warrant the capital investment.

A State Law Has to be Amended—There were other forms of flood in use such as the line flood, where two lease owners bear the cost jointly of drilling a series of water wells along their property line on the theory that this flood moves an equal volume of crude oil into each other's property.

Many pages could be written regarding the mechanics and geology involved in the flooding process, but several excellent technical reports on this aspect of the oil industry are available for those who would wish to make further study of the subject.

As historians, however, we must return to 1879 and the law which New York State's Legislature passed making it a serious crime to allow any water to seep into an abandoned oil well. It appears that the subject had already gained some serious study in the older Pennsylvania field, but producers had felt that the entry of water would be ruinous to the oil sands.

Such a law served its purpose until about 1912, when it was found that the introduction of water increased the production of nearby oil wells. Here was a problem. The producers saw great advantage in the system if it worked, but it was illegal to try such methods because it was illegal to introduce water into the oil sand.

William Duke, Jr., of Wellsville, son of a pioneer lumber family, was then in the New York State Assembly. The New York State Oil Producers' Association turned to him and on April 17, 1919, an amendment to the old law became effective which legalized the process of flooding.

Mr. Duke, now village attorney and practicing lawyer of Wellsville, recalls the many times other members of the Assembly and Senate discussed his bill and wanted to know what it was all about. Finally it passed the two houses of the Legislature and went up to the office of Governor Alfred E. Smith.

The Governor called his counsel into conference to try and determine just what this strange bill was going to do. The learned attorney didn't understand the curious business, so they sent for Mr. Duke.

Governor Al Smith Signs a Strange Bill—"What's this thing all about?" Governor Smith asked.

Mr. Duke explained the bill and drew a few diagrams to help clarify a complicated situation.

"Do you fellows want this thing to become law?" the Governor inquired. Mr. Duke replied in the affirmative, and in that stroke of the pen which legalized flooding, millions of dollars were added to the value of New York State's oil industry.

Today there are no wells being drilled in the New York State field for natural flow from the rich oil sand in Allegany County. All new production is being operated on the basis of the flooding process.

The original floods were operated entirely by gravity, with the water wells kept filled to the surface and the hydrostatic pressure forcing the water into the sand. Soon pressure plants were installed to create an artificial pressure. The first entirely successful water pressure plant operation was completed by Lewis H. Thornton and William McEnroe on a lease owned by them on Lot 17 in the township of Alma. In this test a small production was boosted tenfold.

It is estimated today that there are about three thousand acres of territory which have been at least 90 per cent. "flooded out." By this it is meant that production declined to a point which under prevalent flooding methods, will soon be unprofitable.

But even in such territory, petroleum engineers believe that for every fifty-five barrels of crude oil taken from the sand, both by original and secondary recovery methods, there remain forty-five barrels of unrecovered crude oil. Various methods are discussed, but as yet there is no economically worth while method to produce this unrecovered oil.

It was estimated in 1939 that recoverable oil reserves in the New York State oil fields approximated sixty million barrels under conditions continuing as they are today. With a substantially higher price per barrel, however, some of the less productive acreage might be drilled profitably in which case the reserves might be increased to one hundred million barrels. On the other hand, a lower market price structure might cut profit to a point where it would not be economically possible to recover as much as the sixty million barrel estimated reserve.

The total reserves in Allegany County constitute perhaps 80 per cent. of the known New York State reserves of crude oil still in the ground.



SINCLAIR REFINING COMPANY PLANT, WELLSVILLE. (Lower Section Continues Upper Section View)

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The veteran oil man will always say or write "known reserves." Experience has taught him that the "known reserves" of today might possibly be boosted materially by the wildcat discovery wells of tomorrow. Whether there are more crude oil fields hidden deep in the breast of New York State is anybody's guess. The new Music Mountain field at nearby Bradford, Pennsylvania, is an example; and there might be some much deeper oil in New York State.

The Refineries Play Their Part—This chapter of Allegany County's history could not be completed without some reference to the refining business, for it is here that the crude oil called "100,000,000 years oil" is turned into the valuable products for use in the 1940 mechanized world.

Wellsville is the home of what is reputedly the largest refinery in the world operating exclusively on Pennsylvania grade crude oil.

The present plant is a far cry from the old fashioned plant erected in November, 1901, by the Wellsville Refining Company. The huge plant of today is owned by the Sinclair Refining Company and employs over six hundred hands.

When enlarged in 1931 it had a reputed capacity of ten thousand barrels of crude oil per day, and has been described as a $10,000,000 outfit. The huge plant extends for one and one-half miles along the west bank of the Genesee River at the village corporation line. A few tanks are located within the corporation limits, but the main plant lies entirely in the township of Wellsville outside the village.

Day and night, by truck and rail, thousands of gallons of refined products are shipped out of the plant and moved into the sections of the Nation where they are needed. Thousands of gallons of lubricants and airplane fuel every year are sold to the United States Navy, Army and Marine Corps, the great air lines, and the railroads.

Oddly enough, the Sinclair Refining Company brought to Wellsville about ten years ago the boom which O. P. Taylor's Triangle No. 1 failed to bring. Construction of the huge plant increased the operating force many times in number, and thousands of dollars were poured in here monthly through construction payrolls.

Today the refinery and the nearby oil field operations are looked upon as the backbone of Wellsville's commercial and economic life, and as this is written there is much speculation as to whether or not the present European conflict may bring even greater expansion to the field and to the Sinclair Refining Company plant.

"Fire!" A Village Makes the Front Pages—On July 18, 1938, the big plant brought Wellsville her greatest notoriety and her great-

est scare. Suddenly on that hot sultry Sunday afternoon, flames roared up in the dewaxing plant. Soon the fire was spreading and every available fireman in this section of the county was called out. Soon these calls went to Steuben, Livingston and Cattaraugus counties.

Crowds were attracted by the smoke and by radio reports which carried sensational false rumors. Suddenly there came a deep terrifying roar, smoke and flames billowed into the skies and out of the greasy clouds came the outline of a huge tank cover being tossed five hundred feet into the air with the ease which the wind blows the maple seed along.

White-faced men and women screamed and ran in mortal terror. Three men failed to run. When the tank cover was lifted they were dead—the only casualties of a fire which raged day and night for four days before being brought under control.

In the very center of this holocaust stood a quiet, soft-spoken Texan—W. B. Chenault, general manager of the plant. He, and the other responsible men kept their heads. They were in the center of that fight every minute. Mistakes in judgment, a moment of panic, would have brought great tragedy, but not a single employee was seriously injured.

Hardly had the twisted steel cooled after the $2,000,000 loss, when workmen started moving the débris and plans were under way for the new and modern unit which is operating today.

Bolivar is the home of Allegany County's only other refinery. It is owned by the Allegany Refiners, Inc., a group of producers who banded together a few years ago in a coöperative movement when several hundred acres of territory in the Allegany County field were left without a market by the Tidewater Pipeline Company's decision to discontinue purchases in a wide area. The plant has been running an average of about nine hundred barrels per day. Hans Walchli, brother of Otto W. Walchli, prominent local oil producer and for years the very able general manager of the Sinclair plant in Wellsville, has charge of operations at the Allegany Refiners plant.

Olean is the location of one of the largest refineries in this area. The plant is owned by the Socony-Vacuum Company, and for several years has been running from five thousand to seven thousand barrels of crude oil per day.

The Sinclair plant has an average throughout of about seven thousand three hundred barrels every twenty-four hours, and continues as the leading refinery in existence, operating exclusively with Pennsylvania grade crude oil.

Oil Makes Their Bread and Butter—A visitor to any community located in the New York State oil fields would be surprised to find the number of men, women and young people who could tell him immediately what price oil is bringing on a particular day. This is true despite the fact that few raw materials have experienced the price fluctuations of crude oil, and especially Pennsylvania grade crude oil.

When old Triangle No. 1 was drilled in 1879 the price of oil was 68 cents per barrel, yet in 1860 the liquid gold had sold for $20 per barrel along Oil Creek in Pennsylvania. The next year, 1861, the $20 price had dropped to 10 cents per barrel.

None of these startling price changes ever came to the New York State field. The peak was reached in 1920, when the price stood at $6.10 per barrel for several months of that year. The low point was hit in November, 1892, when the price was quoted at 52 cents per barrel. The present price as of May 22, 1940, is $2.50 per barrel.

The past two years witnessed an unusual situation in the nearby Bradford field, when an area of flush production and flowing wells was opened in the Music Mountain field near Bradford, Pennsylvania. In this narrow strip of territory flowing gusher wells producing several hundred barrels each per day have been drilled and brought an overproduction which has been felt by producers throughout the Pennsylvania grade crude oil area. These wells, according to latest reports, are now declining, and it is believed that another year will see this production much lower.

It is difficult to predict the future of this important New York State industry. The first effects of falling production due to proration, less new drillings, and depletion of certain leases were felt this year and reflected in a loss of assessed property values in the townships of Bolivar, Alma, Wirt, and Genesee.

It therefore appears that the distant future financial well-being of New York State's oil field lies considerably in the hands of the petroleum engineers who must find some method of recovering the oil believed left in the sand by present methods. Young men at Pennsylvania State College are spending much time in the study of this problem and probably there is already among them, the man who will eventually unlock the door which will lead to the recovery of the millions of barrels.

More Oil in Local Fields—Although his work will be lacking in the spectacular color of the early oil field days, his name will go down in the next history with those of Colonel Edward Drake and O. P. Taylor.

Thus could end the story of New York State's oil fields, but history cannot be complete without the cold statistics which after all tell a story which words fail to tell. For this purpose the writer has turned to the services of many oil producers, refinery officials and other sources. To these kind friends we express appreciation and thanks on the part of ourselves and those who read this chapter about one of the great industries of the Empire State.

PRICES PAID FOR PENNSYLVANIA GRADE CRUDE OIL BY THE WELLSVILLE REFINERY FROM 1901 TO MAY 22, 1940

Year	High	Low	Year	High	Low
1900	$1.68	$1.05	1921	$6.10	$2.25
1901	1.30	1.05	1922	4.00	3.00
1902	1.54	1.15	1923	4.00	2.60
1903	1.90	1.50	1924	4.50	2.85
1904	1.85	1.50	1925	4.15	3.15
1905	1.61	1.27	1926	4.15	3.40
1906	1.64	1.58	1927	3.65	2.90
1907	1.78	1.58	1928	4.10	3.30
1908	1.78	1.78	1929	4.35	3.30
1909	1.78	1.43	1930	2.55	2.10
1910	1.43	1.30	1931	2.25	1.60
1911	1.35	1.30	1932	2.02	1.72
1912	2.00	1.35	1933	2.45	1.27
1913	2.50	2.00	1934	2.55	2.05
1914	2.50	1.45	1935	2.35	1.95
1915	2.25	1.35	1936	2.57	2.45
1916	2.75	2.25	1937	2.82	2.20
1917	3.75	2.95	1938	1.80	1.68
1918	4.00	3.75	1939	2.50	1.80
1919	5.00	4.00	1940	2.75	*2.50
1920	6.10	5.00			

* This price quoted May 22, 1940, after cut of 25 cents per barrel.

1939 PRODUCTION ON SINCLAIR REFINING COMPANY LINES

New Oil Wells	286
New Water Wells	234
Total Wells Completed 1939	520

APPROXIMATE DISTRIBUTION OF ALLEGANY COUNTY'S PRODUCTION OF CRUDE OIL

	Barrels per Day
Allegany Refiners at Bolivar	900
Tidewater Oil Company	1,600
Sinclair at Wellsville	7,300
Scio Shipments	200
Others	....
Approximate Total	10,000 barrels

Above Table on a Yearly Basis	Barrels per Year
Allegany Refiners at Bolivar	328,500
Tidewater Pipe Company	584,000
Sinclair at Wellsville	2,671,000
Scio Shipments	73,000
Total	3,656,500

ALLEGANY COUNTY OIL STATISTICS

Date	Oil Wells	Water Wells	Total	Wells Abandoned	Total Production
1935	287	340	627	185	3,190,594 barrels
1936	523	325	848	158	3,303,650 "
1937	501	453	954	187	3,684,445 "
1938	242	180	422	146	3,447,326 "
1939	296	234	520	96	3,656,500 "

CAPACITIES OF NEW YORK STATE OIL REFINERIES

Gulf Oil Corporation, Staten Island	15,000	barrels	per	day
Sinclair at Wellsville	10,000	"	"	"
Socony-Vacuum at Olean	6,500	"	"	"
Socony-Vacuum at Brooklyn	19,000	"	"	"
Socony-Vacuum at Buffalo	7,000	"	"	"
Allegany Refiners, Inc., at Bolivar	1,000	"	"	"
Total for New York State	58,500	"	"	"

Cattaraugus County Oil Production—According to the Federal Bureau of Mines, Cattaraugus County oil production has been running about four thousand barrels a day or a total of about one million four hundred and sixty thousand per year for the past few years.

The average price of the Pennsylvania grade crude oil in the Allegany County field during the year 1939 was approximately $2.07 per barrel, the market rising through six advances from $1.68 on January 1 to $2.50 on December 5. On January 1, 1940, the market stood at $2.75, where it remained for over four months to May 22, when it declined to $2.50.

The total production for New York State for 1939 was approximately five million barrels, of which three million six hundred fifty-six thousand five hundred barrels came from Allegany County, and one million four hundred and sixty thousand barrels from Cattaraugus County. This is approximately thirteen thousand seven hundred barrels per day in the State, with ten thousand barrels a day in Allegany County.

The average number of new wells, both water and oil producers, drilled in Allegany County is about seven hundred per year. In the State the total is between nine hundred and one thousand, entailing a total expenditure for new operations of about $2,000,000 per year.

A large share of this expenditure is made up in payrolls which go to add to the prosperity of every community in the oil producing section. Wellsville, with its large refinery payroll plus its share of the big oil field payroll, has been enjoying prosperous times.

There are in 1940 a total of 14,550 producing oil wells in the petroleum fields of New York State. During recent years there have been four or five times as many new wells drilled as there were old wells abandoned.

With the average price of crude oil in 1937 ranging from a high of $2.82 to a low of $2.20—the highest since 1929—New York State production of about five million barrels per year of "flood" oil, or an average of about 13,698 barrels per day, reached an all time peak with the exception of July, 1882, when a daily average natural production of 23,884 barrels was recorded. The latter figures came, however, during the great flush time of the field's first boom, when flowing wells were common, and the great original rock pressure had not been much reduced.

Geologically, oil is produced in the fields of southwestern New York State from the Chemung sandstones of the upper Devonian time. This lies about one thousand eight hundred feet below the Olean Conglomerate which outcrops in Allegany County on Alma and White Hills, the highest points on this approximate latitude of forty-two degrees. It is interesting that these local points—2,548 feet and 2,500 feet, respectively—are the highest in this latitude between the Catskills and the great Rocky Mountains.

The New York State oil is technically known as Pennsylvania grade crude, and is the most valuable petroleum in the world. This is because of its supreme quality in the manufacture of lubricants and the so-called Pennsylvania oil is the "oiliest" oil when used under the modern demands of pressure and heat. It does the best job of lubricating for the longest period of any oil.

RECENT PENNSYLVANIA GRADE CRUDE OIL PRICE CHANGES

Year	Date	From	To	Increase	Decrease
1938	June 13	$2.05	$1.80	..	$0.25
"	September 1	1.80	1.68	..	.12
1939	January 1	1.68	1.80	$0.12	..
"	February 1	1.80	1.88	.08	..
"	March 6	1.88	2.00	.12	..
"	October 6	2.00	2.25	.25	..
"	November 1	2.25	2.40	.15	..
"	December 1	2.40	2.50	.10	..
1940	January 2	2.50	2.75	.25	..
"	May 22	2.75	2.50	..	.25

NEW YORK STATE'S OIL PRODUCTION

1926	1,934,200 barrels	1933	3,395,000 barrels*
1927	2,237,000 "	1934	3,814,000 "
1928	2,579,000 "	1935	4,241,000 " (1)
1929	3,345,000 "	1936	4,626,000 "
1930	3,854,000 "	1937	5,464,500 "
1931	3,395,000 "*	1938	5,045,200 " (2)
1932	4,524,000 "	1939	5,105,000 " (3)

* During these years producers voluntarily prorated their production in an effort to reduce a condition of serious overproduction.

(1)—In 1935 a total of 14,450 wells in New York State had an average daily production of .8 of a barrel.

(2)—In 1938 proration was ordered in the Allegany and Bradford districts by the various refining companies and pipelines.

(3)—In 1939 a total of 14,550 wells in New York State produced an approximate average daily production of one barrel per well.

CHAPTER LXVII

History of the Telephone Development in Allegany County

By Charles Ricker

When the Bell Telephone Company was first organized it sold county rights to operate its telephone and made a yearly rental charge for each instrument. The territory from Lake Erie to Steuben County was "owned" by J. W. Stearns, of Jamestown; William N. Eastebrook, of Elmira, "owned" the territory east of Mr. Stearns, to and including Broome County, making thirteen counties bordering on the State line. Local telephone exchanges were established in Erie, Jamestown, Bradford, Warren, Olean and Wellsville. Mr. Eastebrook built exchanges in his own territory. There were no connecting lines between these exchanges; but about 1878-79, this territory was consolidated under the name of The New York and Pennsylvania Telephone and Telegraph Company, and a toll line was built from Erie, Pennsylvania, to Binghamton, New York, connecting all the company's exchanges.

In those days the service was slow and not very satisfactory. If a call was put in at Elmira for some one in Erie, it was necessary to call the first exchange west, which was Hornellsville. This would ring Wellsville, which would ring Olean, and then Jamestown and Erie, finally making a through connected line. Many times some one of these stations would have to report that their line was "busy," and so the call would have to be started all over again later. When Elmira "central" finally got Erie (and the party wanted had no telephone) a messenger would have to be sent, at an extra charge, and then there would be a wait until this could be done and a through line made up again for the conversation. The service was poor and it was the operator's duty to help out by repeating parts of the message and

transmitting the answer back. An angelic disposition was one of the requirements of a toll operator.

The early telephone lines consisted of one wire and were known as "grounded lines," using the earth for the return circuit. There was cross-talk and interference, as well as ground noises, and transmission was always more or less noisy. Later, another wire was added and it was called a "metallic circuit," greatly improving the service. There were many grounded lines as late as 1894; but the coming of the electric light lines forced the telephone companies to make them all metallic circuits, thus to do away with all ground connections. The transmitter used was known as the Blake, the type invented by Messrs. Edison, Berliner and Blake. It was operated with one wet battery and had its limitations. One talked into a small square box with a mouthpiece on its door. As weather conditions changed they worked better when readjusted to meet each variable new condition. In 1892 the present "solid back" transmitter was patented, which is the one in use today. Probably there is not, at this writing, a Blake transmitter in existence, for they were all exchanged for the new type and the old ones destroyed.

The original Wellsville Exchange was in charge of Mrs. C. T. McKee, and kept open from 8:00 A. M. till 9:00 P. M. There were a number of telephones in Wellsville village, where the rate was five dollars a month. C. T. McKee was the superintendent and looked after the instruments, as well as to the toll lines in the county. Nothing was done in Allegany County from 1879 till 1889, when a telephone line was built from Wellsville to the county home and jail at Angelica, and a toll station installed in the Charles Hotel at Angelica. In 1881 a line was built to Allentown, Bolivar and Richburg, where a new Allegany County oil field had just been discovered.

In 1893 the writer was appointed county treasurer of Allegany County, my office being at Angelica. I soon realized the need of a telephone line down the Genesee River Valley to my home in Fillmore. I went to Elmira to see W. N. Eastebrook, the president of the New York and Pennsylvania Telephone and Telegraph Company, and laid the case before him. He gave me to understand that such a line as that would "never pay" and that they could not think of building it, nor would they allow me to build it, for the reason that they never allowed their telephones to be used on a line that they did not own or control. The interview was very short and decisive. As I had several hours before my train left, I called on former State Sena-

tor J. Sloat Fassett, with whom I had had many friendly relations. Fortunately for me, the Bell Telephone Company and Allegany County, I found Senator Fassett in his office. During our conversation he asked me what brought me to Elmira and, when I told him, he said that Elmira was not the place to get what I wanted; that I should go to New York City because fifty-one per cent. of the stock of this telephone company was owned there by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. He also told me that he was going to New York the following week, and would see United States Senator Platt, who would assist us in getting what we wanted and be very much delighted to do so because, Mr. Fassett said, "He knows all you fellows up there in Allegany County and he would be more than pleased to do it for you!" The following week I received a message from New York saying: "Go to Eastebrook; tell him what you want; and he will give it to you."

The next day I was in Elmira and Mr. Eastebrook told me to dictate a letter to him stating what we wanted up in Allegany County and he would answer it. I did this and he dictated a letter to his stenographer, accepting my proposition. I came home with the right to build a toll line from Fillmore to their Wellsville exchange, they to furnish the telephones and we to maintain them and the line. We were to have one-half of all the toll business going to and from our line. We were also to have the right to wire Allegany County in any place where it did not interfere with their already installed lines, and there was not even a suggestion of any argument. At once I incorporated The Northern Allegany Telephone Company, the stockholders, besides myself, being: Judge S. M. Norton, of Friendship; Hon. Frank Sullivan Smith, of Angelica; I. S. Hunt, of Belfast; S. M. Bartlett, of Caneadea; and James R. Hodnett, of Fillmore. That fall we had the line completed. The telephone service was established and in the following four years we built lines out of Fillmore to Short Tract, Wiscoy, Rossburg, Hume and Centerville, and a line from Caneadea to Rushford. We also built a line to Pike and Portageville in Wyoming County, giving us ten toll stations.

When we were ready to begin building the Northern Allegany Telephone Company line from Fillmore to the Wellsville exchange of the Bell Company, we employed Dennis Torpey, of Fillmore, to have charge of construction, as he had much experience in road work and building. We told him to go out and buy two hundred twenty-five-foot chestnut poles, having a six-inch top, and the balance of them

we would buy in Caneadea or Belfast, as we needed them. He was gone all day, and returned to tell us that he could not buy any telephone poles.

"Why, Mr. Torpey, there are thousands of chestnut poles up on those hills and it's strange that they will not sell any of them," I said to him. He told me that they did not know what a telephone pole was, and they could not sell them till they knew what a telephone pole was worth. I told him to go home, and to come up in the morning, when perhaps I would go with him. In the meantime I studied the problem. The next morning I told him to go out and buy chestnut fence poles; figure out with them what such a tree would be worth cut into posts; and pay them accordingly. By noon he was back and the price on telephone poles was set. At that time there were thousands of chestnut trees on our hill farms—today there is not one. The chestnut tree blight killed them all. Hundreds of bushels of chestnuts —one of the best and most popular nuts in the country—used to be shipped from Allegany County every fall. Many can recall the hot roasted chestnuts that were offered at the street corners in our cities in those days; and I know it for a fact, that it was very hard to keep the school children in school after the first frost had "opened the chestnut burs." Chestnut timber was noted for its long life, and was the timber used by all the electric transmission companies.

The Fillmore office of the new telephone company was in my hardware store and we found we had many people to educate in the use of the telephone. About our very first customer wanted Attorney D. P. Richardson, over at Angelica, to find out if he was going to be home the next day as the Fillmore man wanted to go and see him about some legal business. He was told it would be just as cheap to talk to Attorney Richardson, and finally he consented to do so, and I put in the call. After waiting more than half an hour, we got Mr. Richardson on the 'phone, and I told him who it was who wanted to talk to him. Then I had the man hold the receiver to his ear and talk into the transmitter, and he shouted: "Is that you, D. P.?" I told him to talk in his ordinary tone and I finally got them to talking freely. When the Fillmore man was finished with telephoning, he had found out all that he needed to know; he did not have to go 'way over to Angelica, a days' trip of nearly forty miles. It cost him fifteen cents for the message and five cents for the messenger fee. He went out and bought me a five cent cigar! During his entire lifetime my Fillmore neighbor never got over talking to me about that wonderful

experience and said, "Why, during our talk I recognized D. P.'s voice perfectly!"

This is a fair story of the experiences of hundreds who used the service during those pioneer days, and I could relate many other ones. Some Centerville residents offered to furnish the poles if we would build a line to their village. This came about from an experience they had during the winter of 1894 and 1895. A teachers' institute was being held in Angelica. The teachers in northern Allegany attended, including three from Centerville. A very bad snow storm came along, attended by a strong wind, which developed into a real blizzard. The parents of the young girl school teachers were very much alarmed at their daughters not being able to get home, and the three Centerville fathers drove six miles through the snow drifts to Fillmore, where they got in touch with their daughters over the telephone. The result was a 'phone line to Centerville the following spring!

While building the line to Pike, by way of Hume village, we were held up at the county line because we had not received our right to build into the territory of the Bell Company of Buffalo, which controlled the territory north of us. During this period, in 1895, Edward T. Scott, a farmer living this side of the county line, told me that he was getting ready to pick his strawberries and asked me if I could not install a telephone so he could call the merchants in Hume and Fillmore about taking orders for berries. He was the first farmer in the United States who ever had a Bell telephone installed in his house, at a price he could afford to pay, on a "Farm" or "Farmer" line; as these lines were called.

Shortly after this we made arrangements to carry our line from this point to Mills Mills and East Koy and on through to Portageville in Wyoming County. We strung two lines and soon had them loaded with telephones. Realizing that this local service was going to become an important factor in the telephone business, I organized the Fillmore Telephone Company—the first one in the United States to take care of this class of subscribers—turning over to this company all of our local subscribers. Then I got I. S. Hunt, of Belfast, interested in a local exchange there, and we incorporated the Belfast Telephone Company. Then I interested Will Thomas and Lucien Hardy, in Rushford, and we incorporated the Rushford Telephone Company. An old letterhead of The Northern Allegany Telephone Company, dated March, 1898, had this quotation in its upper right hand corner: "Connecting 500 local subscribers in Belfast, Rushford, and Fill-

more." During this same period L. D. Bennett, a merchant at Short Tract, and I incorporated and built the Short Tract Telephone Company, our lines covering parts of Allen and all of Granger. These local lines became a source of much toll business for the Northern Allegany Telephone Company.

I had a great many friends in Cuba and they were very anxious for me to start an exchange there, and as our initial work in northern Allegany County was practically finished, I took the matter up in the spring of 1898. While I had the right to wire Allegany County in any place where it did not interfere with the established lines of the Bell Telephone Company, I felt that I would not have a right to build in Cuba, for there was a toll station there. I went to Jamestown to see J. W. Stearns, who was vice-president of the New York and Pennsylvania Telephone and Telegraph Company, and he invited me to go up to Chautauqua Lake with him, where we spent the day. We had dinner at Celoron and then spent the afternoon sitting on a pile of railroad ties near the lake discussing my being allowed to wire the village of Cuba, where there was fifteen hundred inhabitants. He did not favor it, telling me that the company had two men canvass there. After a week's work they had secured sixteen subscribers. They had spent hundreds of dollars in construction, only to lose it. I told him just why it was—these sixteen subscribers had no one else in town to talk to! At the end of the year the company did not have any subscribers. They tore out their poles and wires and discontinued the service. I told him also that we proposed to put in telephones at a price people could afford to pay and that it meant a large increase in toll business for their own toll lines; and also that their patents were about to expire and if they did not begin to give local service, other people would, because all these country villages were going to have telephone service. I also called his attention to the fact that we had five hundred to six hundred telephones in northern Allegany County and the telephone companies were prosperous. He thought a few moments and then said: "I'll tell you what I will do; we will take the train at twelve tonight and you can get off at Cuba and I will go through to New York and take this matter up with our people. I will do everything I can to get what you want." The next afternoon I received another message from New York City telling me: "All right with Cuba. Go ahead! Wish you success." I at once called my brother, Clarence Ricker, at the county clerk's office, in Belmont, asking him to meet me that night in Cuba, where we saw Sheriff George

H. Swift and organized the Cuba Telephone Company. My brother excused himself during the evening for a short time and, when he came back, told us that he had been out to see Fred Simpson, who was superintendent for his own father's large stock farm in the town of New Hudson, about eight miles north of Cuba, and that Simpson had agreed to cut the poles on his farm and furnish them for a line from Cuba to his farm if we would build it—and which later he did—and we constructed the line by way of Black Creek.

When we laid out our pole lines in Cuba I insisted on building back of all the houses and business places, thereby keeping most of our construction out of the streets and away from the shade trees. This was contrary to the practice of the Bell people; but it seemed to please the local people and we had no trouble getting rights-of-way. Years later I met a very prominent lady of Cuba, and she said: "Mr. Ricker, I have always wanted to thank you for setting your telephone poles in back of the buildings, and away from our shade trees when you built your telephone system here." I had never liked the custom of setting poles along the highway nor the cutting of the shade trees, and I always tried to avoid this. Mr. Stearns told me that we might get fifty telephones in Cuba. I told him that when we had 150 I would send him a card. His Christmas card of that first year carried this news!

The telephone business grew very fast, and the demand for telephone lines was beyond our ability to finance operations; but the banks were very kind to us. In addition to the Black Creek-New Hudson line, we built to Clarksville and Rawson and covered the country around Cuba village, and soon had over three hundred subscribers. An operator one day spoke about her sore arm—caused by having to turn the crank of the bell ringer for so many calls. I had a water motor and took it up there, and connected it to the city water system at the sink; belted it to an electric magneto, carried the wires to the switchboard, and soon all she had to do was to push a button—the same as they did later, after electric light current was available and a vibrator could be had. The toll business in Cuba began to expand greatly. A man could put in a call from his office, or store, and go on with his work until all was ready for him to talk with his party. This was appreciated, for prior to this it had been necessary to go to C. A. DeKay's news store, put the call in, and then wait from half to a full hour for some man who did not have a telephone. This was the common experience in those days—I know because I had exactly those experiences myself. Years later a call was put in from

a Buffalo hotel for a number in Chicago, and within thirty seconds (by a watch) the conversation was begun. It is commonplace today to have the local operator say, "hold the line please," and you get Boston or New York in the same length of time as you would get the next village. And the service is perfect! Associated with H. A. Corbin and Charles Lane, of Friendship, we started in 1899 the plant there. Edward Huff, of Fillmore, did the construction work. At this same time, with William J. Richardson and James Anderson, of Belmont, we started the Belmont Telephone Company, and Clarence Lathrop was building the Angelica Company. In those "horse and buggy days" Bolivar and Alfred were too far away for me; but I went to Elmira with the former county treasurer, D. S. Burdick, of Alfred, and Mr. Nichols, of Bolivar, and we made arrangements for these two villages to build local plants. Soon the entire country was covered.

The Bell people soon discovered that, with the expiration of their last patents, they were having some opposition. They organized a "Sub License Contract Department," and put a Mr. Smith in charge; but it was too late to stop the independent telephone movement that just seemed to sweep the country. Aside from Wellsville, where the Bell people had always maintained an exchange, they failed to do very much in Allegany County. Our local companies, owned by local men, kept them out; but in Wellsville they succeeded in establishing a very modern exchange and wired most of the nearby sections. Mr. Stearns later on acknowledged to me that what I pictured to him—the day I got him to go to New York and secure for me the right to wire Cuba —had finally come to pass. It would be hard to estimate what that fight to retain and hold the telephone business in the United States cost the various Bell interests; but it is safe to say that it was well up into many millions. The second time I ever talked with Mr. Easte-brook, I told him about Bell patents and he asked me where the independents were going to get their telephones, and I replied, "Why, they will make them." And he said that they could not do it. I asked him: "If a man came home from Switzerland with an improved watch, how long would it be before it would be on the home market?" We had quite an argument. I think that he must have recalled it in later days.

We found that the telephone was a great help to local business; for a man living between two villages was apt to have his bank account and do more of his business where he had a telephone connection: it became *his* village, and his children were more apt to go to school there and, in time, he lived there himself. This caused some unnecessary building by rival but friendly interests.

Our first telephone "romance" was in 1894, soon after the Wellsville line was completed. It concerned a young man clerking in a store where he had a toll station. It probably began there because Wellsville had a toll operator who had a pleasant and attractive voice. Fortunately our lines were not as busy as they later became, and they



(Courtesy of Mrs. Mame E. Ward)

HOWELL HOUSE, WELLSVILLE, IN 1871

had plenty of chances to carry on their love-making. During that first fall their marriage was announced in the Wellsville papers.

When I started the Fillmore Telephone Company, in 1894, the original Bell patent (which was nothing more than the receiver we use today. This could be used both for talking and receiving—by simply transferring the receiver to the ear from the mouth and back again to get the answer) had expired, and there was being made what was known as the magneto transmitter, which received its electric current from a heavy, powerful permanent magnet. We had some fifty

of them on our "farm lines" in order to avoid the rental charged by the Bell Company, and they gave very good service. I talked to Elmira, New York, one day, and they reported that my voice came in well. This company, as I firmly believe, was the first to become incorporated in the United States for the purpose of serving a rural people, and accordingly the rental had to be made low at first. Soon the United States Supreme Court decided that the Bell patent on their battery transmitter had expired, so we were able to get better rates on them from the Bell people. Also, we were able to buy from new factories new telephones that were then in their experimental stages. Our Cuba plant was started with Blake transmitters, as they were rented at a lower price, and they worked very well till the various Bell plants were connected together, and we were allowed to have the "solid back" transmitters at the same price as the Blake, whereupon we changed all of ours. The first connecting line between the Bell Company of Buffalo was built in 1896-97, between Buffalo and Jamestown. This gave us all western New York to Syracuse.

No rural line was ever built that there was not trouble caused by other subscribers "listening in." The instant a ring was made, one could hear the click of the "silent" listeners' telephones as they removed receivers from their hooks. They all wanted to be on loaded lines and thus get all the news. When we were forced to build another line to take care of the increasing number of subscribers, we naturally tried to put the worst offenders on the new line. And most of them were very well known! It took a diplomat to handle the situation, and we were unable to employ one—that is a real one—even if he could have been found. I never installed a telephone in a farmhouse, and rang central to give them the ring selected, but that I received a thrill at the thought that I had brought this house into connection with most of the neighbors, with the doctor, the railroad station, the village stores and the world; that I had done away with the feeling of isolation and loneliness so often associated with farm life, and had conferred a blessing upon that household! The nearest neighbor might be half a mile away. There were no improved roads, no radio, automobile—nothing ofttimes but a rather barren home. I have seen tears stream down a woman's face the first time she used the new 'phone. Added to all this is the thought of the thousands of miles of travel over all kinds of roads our Allegany telephones save our people. And, finally, add the sense of safety the subscribers enjoyed. Ofttimes the doctor was attending the patient before anyone could have driven to the village to call him.

Of the men who built these plants, I do not think one of them was actuated so much by the hope of profit as he was by the desire to have and give service. It was a wonderful thing to know that your village was one of the very first in the country to have a complete telephone service, whereby you could call half of the houses in the neighborhood and reach out into the country in all directions and feel that it was "human-owned" and operated by local men you knew.

In 1910 the Bell people incorporated the Allegany County Telephone Company, and Fred C. Saunders, of Cuba, was elected president and manager. He had a very competent staff, and they soon owned all the telephone companies in the county except Short Tract, which is locally owned; and Fillmore, which is now owned and operated by George Dildine, an old Bell man, who is giving very fine service to between three and four hundred subscribers; and the Alfred Telephone Company, which is still owned by former County Treasurer D. S. Burdick. The Allegany County Telephone Company rebuilt the plants and did away with most of the open wire circuits, replacing them with cables in the villages. They introduced night and Sunday service.

F. C. Saunders, president, passed away in 1931 and Harry E. Keller, of Cuba, took his place until the next year, when the New York Telephone Company consolidated the two companies. At that time the Allegany Company had some four thousand subscribers—including 695 in Cuba, where Mr. Stearns had once tried to convince me that it would never pay. The company showed a book value of a little less than one million dollars when it was taken over, and consisted of the units I originally started—with Wellsville added.

In those early days the switchboard office became the center of all information and warm friendships were engendered between the girl operators and most of the subscribers. These old-time operators did errands for the subscribers, told them the time of day, when the trains were due, and they took the place of the weekly newspaper with the latest current reports about events that go to make up country life. It was all so human! And Christmas time brought many little friendly remembrances from some of the subscribers. Today telephone communication is rapidly becoming a cold-blooded machine, with the mute and wholly mechanical dial systems that are quite common. So unlike the noon weather reports the friendly telephone "Central" gave out every day, and the ring "calling all subscribers," to tell them of some important news "flash." The assassination of President William McKinley in Buffalo, in 1901, was made known to most of our subscrib-

ers in just a few minutes by this friendly "farm line" telephone service of yesteryear! Radio today renders a universal service, with two-way conversations between news commentators abroad and here. And there is television—for the world of tomorrow!

Politics and 'Phones—I took the office of county treasurer with the understanding with Judge Norton that Fred Robbins would help me to get things going again—so long after Mr. Gardiner's passing on. This he did, and for some six weeks he was a daily visitor, and often into the late hours. I liked him, and soon realized that the people of Angelica held him in very high esteem.

The following fall there were five candidates for Member of Assembly: Dr. Bacon of Canaseraga, Munn of Caneadea, Litchard of Rushford, Weaver of Angelica, and one other. It came to me that Fred Robbins would be a fine man to hold that position, and took the matter up with our leader, W. J. Glenn, in Cuba, and the more we discussed it the better I liked the idea. It would go to heal up the feelings between Angelica and the rest of the county, and then there were other political bearings on the whole situation. Mr. Glenn told me to have my man in Cuba on Tuesday night, and he would have Charlie Brown (later a Supreme Court Judge) there, and we would talk it over. I had him there, and before we went to bed it was decided to nominate Mr. Robbins, and in the county convention held later he was nominated on the sixth ballot, and this was done without the votes of Angelica delegates—as they voted for Mr. Weaver to the last.

My office was still in Angelica, the old county seat, and soon I heard reports that Robbins had sold out to the "Ring" and there was a feeling that you could sense very easily. The old Angelica Ring—headed by Mr. Robbins' partner in the law firm of Richardson and Robbins—made things rather unpleasant for Fred, but he was elected, and served in Albany three years, and made a fine member and a fine record there.

During this time Mr. Robbins was never allowed to have any voice in naming one single delegate to any convention, and they were always against us. The Angelica crowd knew that any political organization depended on friendly delegates to conventions for its life. Also, that if they could just continue this, that the day would come when some one would not be nominated again, and then they could get out their sackcloth and ashes, and shed a few briny, crocodile tears and moan, "Oh, our poor Fred! They have turned him down." And

then send out men with petitions asking that he run on an opposition ticket, and show the "Ring" up, for the awful crime they had committed, and ride into power themselves on his coat tails! In a convention they nominated him, and they elected him, but he did not go to Albany as a Republican; and so the next year they proposed to control the county convention and nominate him and all the other candidates. They had control of the board of supervisors, and it looked dark for the "Ring." In going and coming from the county seat at Belmont, by way of Cuba, I had to spend one night there each week, and each time I would ask Mr. Glenn as to whom he was for this week for member to beat Fred Robbins. He considered so many men who might do it, but he never found one. The feeling in the county was that there was no question about Mr. Robbins' heading the ticket that fall.

We had completed our toll line to Rushford, and I was on the line one day to see how many telephones we could get when we came to string another line up there for this purpose. I talked with Mr. Litchard, who lived in Rushford and who had a very fine farm, and he wanted one just as soon as we could take him on, and he asked why he could not be put on the line we had, but I told him that we could not because it was our main toll line and all our villages were on it, and that he would have to wait. During our visit I discovered that Litchard had not supported Mr. Robbins the last fall, and was not for him then. Going home I got to thinking the matter over; and the next day being Saturday I took my lineman and the needed material and we went to Mr. Litchard's and installed him on our main line, and gave him his line ring.

The following Monday I went to Belmont as usual, but I hurried my business up so that I could get back that night to Cuba, where I met Mr. Glenn, and we went into the same room back of the office in the Kinney house that we had used that night to nominate Fred Robbins, four years before. I at once asked Mr. Glenn who his weekly, new candidate was, and he told me, and then I said: "William, you know we can never land that man, because he will never go out and make the fight. There is just one man in Allegany County who has all the needed material to win. He is a fine Christian gentleman, superintendent of his Sunday school, and president of the Sunday School County Association. He is head of the county grange and the Farmers' Insurance Company. He knows more farmers in Allegany County than any other man, and they are his friends. He is a Grand Army man. He has been a candidate for this office once—and above all

things he has the nerve to go out and tell his friends what he wants, and he will do it, and his name is A. W. Litchard, of Rushford. Also, I put a telephone in his house last Saturday, and you go over to the telephone office and have Wellsville office ring five short rings on our Fillmore line and you will get him, and tell him that you want to see him at once."

In five minutes he was back with the information that "your man will be here by eight o'clock tomorrow morning." I told Mr. Glenn that there were five men in my town who were "Robbins men," but Litchard could get them by doing it before it got out that he was to be the candidate, and I wanted him to come to Fillmore and I would tell him what to do, and with these men and their influence among the farmers we could carry the town—otherwise we could not. The next day Mr. Litchard drove to Cuba, seventeen miles, and then twenty-four miles to Fillmore, getting here at four o'clock, and I told him what to do, and by six he was back with the information that he had seen all these needed men and that they were all glad that he was going to make the fight and that they would do all they could for him —and they did. I told Mr. Litchard he need not bother about the town of Hume any more, and I would attend to the rest of it.

Three weeks from that Saturday that I placed that telephone for Mr. Litchard, we had a caucus for delegates to the county convention, and an all-time record vote was cast, and Mr. Litchard received 260 and Mr. Robbins 250 votes—and our five delegates settled the matter! Mr. Litchard served three terms in Albany, and made a very fine record there and that was the end of any serious opposition in the future.

I have often thought this campaign over. Had we "discovered" this man early in the season, we would have had an all summer fight and given the opposition plenty of time to have aroused the people and to get up another convention and brass bands, but they knew that we had no candidate that could win, and they knew that they had us—and they "rested on their oars." We had an effective county organization, and it swung into action the minute we had this man ready; while the opposition was too sure of their position. We caught them about the last minute when it was too late to get a lot of people very much excited, and we had a fine candidate who was not afraid of them.

Again my telephone made history, and changed the lives of men. If I had not gone up there to see about subscribers, it is probable that Mr. Litchard would not have been thought of as a candidate, as it was too near the caucus time.

CHAPTER LXVIII

Women's Activities in Allegany County

By Mrs. Lillian Lee Barnes

The oldest purely women's societies in this country were started for missionary and church work and by 1864 every denomination had its organized woman's auxiliary which are even more active today.

With the events of the Civil War, 1861-65, women were further brought together to work for a common cause. They exchanged ideas, new opinions were formed, many were thrown on their own resources and a few were brave enough to stand up against tradition and prejudice and seek through some medium a broader life. This medium was the woman's club, which has done more for the enlightenment of women than any other institution in history. Up to 1899 women's clubs were local institutions but had spread, in twenty-one years, to nearly every State in the Union. It was Sorosis of New York, the first club to form, that in April, 1890, addressed a call to these clubs to meet with them to form a general federation of clubs, the object being to promote efficiency by company methods of work and to enlarge the intellectual and social life of its women. It was soon discovered, however, that great distances of travel limited the benefits of the general federation so State federations were formed.

When New York State federated its clubs in November, 1894, Allegany County had several reading circles and literary clubs. In the following spring, Mrs. Hamilton Ward, as president of the Literary and Historical Society of Belmont, called the clubs of the county together to form a county federation. Thirteen active clubs became members. The object of the federation, as stated in the constitution adopted, was to stimulate the formation of free libraries and to furnish intellectual aid and companionship to women. The officers elected were: President, Mrs. Hamilton Ward, Belmont; vice-president,

Mrs. Frank B. Church, Wellsville; secretary, Mrs. C. H. Charles, Cuba; treasurer, Mrs. S. M. Norton, Friendship.

The first annual convention was held in Wellsville October 13, 1895. A month later, in November, the first annual State federation convention was held in Brooklyn and Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Church, Mrs. Charles and Mrs. Nora E. Darling, of Wellsville, all attended, representing the Allegany County federation. When officers were elected, Mrs. Ward was made vice-president.

The second annual meeting of the Allegany County federation was held in Friendship and the third in Belfast. At this time Mrs. Ward retired from the presidency and Mrs. Church was elected president. The guest of honor at this meeting was Mrs. William Todd Helmuth, of New York City, who had been president of Sorosis, vice-president and later president of the New York State federation. This was over forty years ago, when this meeting was held in Belfast, and many delegates and club members about the county started out the day before by train in order to be present at the opening morning session. Now most any distance in the county can be reached in an hour by auto.

It is interesting to note that this county federation is still active and meets every fall and spring exchanging ideas and promoting good fellowship among its members.

There are still thirteen clubs affiliated with the county federation, their purpose to pursue some systematic study and maintain a public library, ten being of the original. These literary clubs of the county, of which the Belmont Literary and Historical Society and the Travelers' Club of Friendship are the oldest, both organized in 1885, are listed as follows:

Almond—"Twentieth Century Club," fifty active members, organized October 30, 1901. By means of generous gifts from friends and members and much hard work the present library building of brick was erected in 1912 and in ten years all indebtedness was wiped out.

Angelica—"The Progress Club," organized in 1893. Meetings are held in the library building. The club is a member of the State federation. Motto, "But to act that each tomorrow finds us farther than today."

Belfast—"The Hawthorne Club," forty-five members. Organized and federated in 1895. By bake sales, lecture courses and an annual library day filled with money-making projects the club raised nearly $1,500 for a library building. This was further increased by the generous gift of $2,000 by Mrs. Helen Dusenbury, of Portville, formerly a resident of Belfast. Then, in 1913, Frank Bartlett, of

Olean, in memory of his father and mother, who had been lifelong residents of Belfast, built and furnished the present library building. Mrs. Bartlett furnished the club rooms completely, giving also silver and china sufficient for the serving of refreshments. The site for the building was given by a club member, Mrs. Sarah Ford Crosby. Mr. Bartlett made a written request that the building should remain under the care of the Hawthorne Club as long as it retained the same high character it possessed at the time it was given. The $3,500 raised and given is invested to help maintain the library. Club meetings are held every two weeks from September to May. Motto, "Knowledge is the treasure of which study is the key."

Belmont—"Literary and Historical Society," sixty members, organized in October, 1885. The first books to form a library were forty in number, and were brought to the place of meeting in a basket, under the care of Miss Adelle Noble, the late Mrs. Lester Bellamy, who acted as the first librarian. The original meeting place was a room in the old engine house, which stood on the corner of Court and North streets. In March, 1888, the society was incorporated and the certificate of incorporation presented to the organization by its president, Mrs. Frank VanCampen. The society had long dreamed of a home for its meetings and many were the benefit performances staged with this end in view. With the building fund of $800 and the land and an additional $1,000 given by Mrs. Hamilton Ward, a building was started and, though unfinished, was occupied in January, 1894, the first library building erected in the county by the first club of the county. The forty books have grown to 9,000. The meetings of the society are held each Friday afternoon during the year from October 1 to May 1. Mrs. Harry Evans is the president.

Belmont—"Tourist Club," membership limited to twenty members, organized in the spring of 1893. Its objects, purely social and literary. The meetings are held weekly on Tuesday. The charter members were: Mrs. C. G. Anderson, president; Mrs. W. J. Richardson, vice-president; Mrs. C. H. Brown, secretary; Mrs. Isaac Willetts, treasurer; Mrs. Archibald Morris, Mrs. F. A. Hyland, Mrs. James Hyde, Mrs. F. B. Kenney, Mrs. W. K. Paul, and Miss Blanche Pease.

Bolivar—"Sorosis," fifty members organized in 1895. Joined the State federation in 1927. The meetings are held regularly Thursday afternoon from October to April. The motto, "Live up to the best there is in you."

Cuba—"Current Topic Club," membership limited to twenty-five active members. "The Shakespeare Club," organized in 1887, membership limited to twenty-three. Among the founders, Mrs. Harriet Armstrong gave her services for thirty years as librarian of the Cuba circulating library. Mrs. Elizabeth W. Sheldon, also a volunteer librarian, gave the bequest by which Cuba's fine library building was erected and in part maintained. Mrs. Christina Howell Charles founded and for a decade fostered the Cuba club of young girls called the "Shakespeare Amateurs" and was also active in founding the Allegany County Federation and served as an officer in the State federation. Mrs. Helen Stevens Eldridge, a writer, lives in Tampa, Florida. Mrs. Albert A. Arnold, now a dean of the club, joined a few months after its organization. The society celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in May, 1937, to which meeting the literary clubs of the county, officers of the federation and representatives of Allegany County's colleges were invited. Mrs. W. N. Renwick is president. "The Travelers' Club," membership limited to twenty, organized in 1927 by Mrs. Lawson Paul. Meetings are held Tuesday of each week. Joined the State federation in 1933. Mrs. Almeda Pettit is president.

Fillmore—"The Wide Awake Club," membership limited to twenty members, was organized in 1896. A public library building was dedicated February 4, 1899, forty years ago last February and among the women responsible were Mrs. A. H. Lyman, Mrs. J. W. Curtis, Mrs. M. J. Lahr, and Mrs. J. W. Stockwell.

Friendship—"Musical Literary Club," membership limited to twenty-five, organized in 1898, meets each Friday from October 1 to March 1. Mrs. S. M. Norton was the first president. "The Travelers' Club," membership limited to twenty-five members, was organized October 3, 1885. Mrs. Frank Church, who later moved to Wellsville, was the first president.

Wellsville—"Monday Club," membership limited to sixty active members, was organized March 6, 1893, as a Shakespeare reading and study club. Its first president, Mrs. Frank B. Church,* was one of the most active organizers and workers in the women's club and library movement in Allegany County. Mrs. Church was president three years, when Mrs. Alfred Brown, who had been vice-president, was elected president, September 28, 1896, and remained at the head of the Monday Club for nearly forty years.

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*Mrs. Frank Church, *née* Ida Kinne, was the first wife of the Hon. Frank B. Church.

The active work of establishing a library began in 1894 when a collection of books had been gathered, supplemented by the traveling libraries of the State. With the completion of the city hall, May 6, 1895, the club occupied the rooms set apart by the village for the library. Here they continued their work, raising money, buying



(Photo by Al Nordin, Wellsville)

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, WELLSVILLE

books and acting as unpaid librarians. By 1896 they had acquired two thousand volumes and had 735 persons on their reading list. Mrs. Brown, as president of the Monday Club, was also made chairman of the board of trustees of the library and her work is known throughout the county for it was entirely through her influence that Wellsville

has its beautiful new library building, given and endowed by her nephew, David A. Howe. It is here (since October 4, 1937) that the Monday Club has its beautiful club room and its motto, "The end crowns the work," seems befitting to these early members and especially to Mrs. Brown, who worked so hard, that the younger generation might reap so much. The club at its last meeting in April, 1939, placed on its wall in memory of Mrs. Brown, with an appropriate program, a clock properly inscribed. The presidents succeeding Mrs. Brown were: Mrs. Paul Davie, two years; Mrs. Norman Otis (now Mrs. William Garrison) one year; Mrs. E. Willard Barnes, two years; and Mrs. Ellis Hopkins, elected May, 1939.

The charter members of the Monday Club with the first officers were: Mrs. Frank B. Church, president; Mrs. Alfred Brown, vice-president; Miss Fanny Lewis, secretary; Mrs. James Macken, treasurer; Mrs. C. R. Adams, Mrs. Enos W. Barnes, Miss Belle Cummings, Mrs. Charles Day, Mrs. Nora Darling, Mrs. J. R. Freeland, Mrs. Loretta Farnum, Mrs. Richard H. Lee, Mrs. C. B. Macken, Mrs. C. R. Scott, Mrs. Georgia Drew Merrill.

Women's activities are no longer restricted to literary clubs and church organizations. A once active organization, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, since the repeal of Prohibition, has again taken up its labors and the women in Allegany County have joined in the celebration of the one hundredth birthday of Frances E. Willard and are working to help raise a fund of $120,000 known as the "Centenary Alcohol Education Fund" to be used in educating the public against the use of liquor.

Franchise clubs are no longer needed and most of the smaller clubs for instruction along political and civic lines have resolved themselves into two county clubs, the Women's Republican Club and the Women's Democratic Club. The Women's Republican Club of the county, organized in 1935, is an outgrowth of the Women's Republican Club of Wellsville, organized by Mrs. Harry Bradley. Its membership now numbers over two hundred women representing fifteen towns. Monthly meetings are held from May through October. The Allegany County Democratic Women's Club was formed October 18, 1932, under the direction of J. Webb, of Albany. There are now about eighty members. Miss Bessie Wyvell was the first president.

During the years when the county was becoming club conscious, one of Allegany County's leaders, Mrs. Hamilton Ward, organized at Belmont on June 12, 1897, a chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which was named the Catherine Schuyler Chap-

ter in honor of the wife of Captain Philip Schuyler, a hero of the Revolutionary period, whose eldest daughter, Angelica, married John Church. Their son, Captain Philip Church, settled in Allegany County, building and occupying the property known as Belvidere Farms.

Mrs. Ward became regent and served until 1912. The objects of this society are to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence; to promote institutions of learning; to foster true patriotism and love of country and to aid in securing for mankind all the blessings of liberty. The chapter has placed markers at several historical places and marked many Revolutionary soldiers' graves. It is establishing a scholarship at Alfred University. The meetings are held during the summer months at various towns in the county.

"American Legion Auxiliary"—The women's auxiliary of the American Legion founded since the World War helps the American Legion work for the youth of the country.

Lodge Orders—The different lodges have their women's orders. The Maccabees, the Rebekahs and the Eastern Stars are social and service groups. Allegany County has fourteen Eastern Star chapters. Buttrick Chapter, No. 109, of Bolivar, is the oldest; Burton Chapter, No. 129, of Wellsville, has the largest membership (282 members) and was organized in 1896 for service to humanity. The Lady Elks are an auxiliary of the Wellsville Lodge of Elks. In addition, ladies' auxiliaries have been formed in recent years in connection with several Allegany County volunteer fire departments.

Parent Group—Mother's clubs have developed into parent-teacher associations, which admit the fathers, but are largely carried on by the mothers with the teachers, and every school has its P. T. A. working for the good of the children.

Musical Club—The Wellsville Musical Club admits the men as well as the women, has been organized for twenty years, helping to set a high standard musically for the community. The membership is limited to one hundred. The club has sponsored many fine concerts. Last year Sunday afternoon concerts free to the public were held in the auditorium of the new library. Another series of six concerts will be given this year during March and April. The club has eight monthly meetings during the year from October to May and usually the programs are given by club members.

The Allegany County Garden Club—Organized May 26, 1932. The membership of 150 is divided between the larger towns of the county, about one-half in Wellsville, the other half in Andover, Alfred,

Belmont, Bolivar, and Richburg. The club is a member of the Eighth District Federated Garden Clubs of the State. Regular monthly meetings are held from October to May and occasional meetings during the summer by invitation of some member or a visit to some garden. The club has various projects of beautification of the countryside. One project is that of establishing a wild bird sanctuary at Moss Lake, near Rushford. Each year a flower show is held in June at the David A. Howe Library in Wellsville.



(Courtesy of the Wellsville Daily Reporter)

BAPTIST CHURCH, WELLSVILLE, RAZED ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE PRESENT LIBRARY

Business and Professional Women's Club—So many women are now in business that this club has taken an important place in Allegany County. It has a membership of fifty and was organized in November, 1924, for the purpose of recreation, social and welfare activities and to carry out the national slogan "Better Business Women for a Better Business World." The club has assisted the Salvation Army,

the Red Cross and the Children's Health Camp. It also has a scholarship fund for business education for young people. Through the club's efforts a rest and waiting room was opened for women and children on Armistice Day, 1925. It is financed by the Wellsville merchants, the Monday Club and individual donations, and it is supervised by the B. and P. W. Club. During the fourteen years the records show a registration of over eleven hundred people each year. The club holds monthly business and dinner meetings and has had many interesting programs and speakers. It joined the federation in May, 1938.

The Home Bureau—This organization had its inception in Allegany County during the World War, beginning in 1917, when there was need for food conservation. It was sponsored by Cornell University and the State Conservation Commission. After the war, the women of Allegany County decided to continue the work and in 1920 became affiliated with the Farm Bureau. The demonstration agents are graduates of the Home Economics College of Cornell University. They give lessons on food production and preservation, health and nutrition, clothing, textiles, child guidance, management and furnishing of the home and many topics of interest and help to the homemaker. There are 534 members of the Home Bureau in Allegany County.

College Clubs—"The Cornell Women's Club," one of thirty-two Cornell clubs federated in the United States. It has thirty-five members, meets once a month, usually a dinner meeting. There are several projects, a federation scholarship fund of $10,000 for women, a spring tea for local and prospective university students and an annual conference on fields of work for women. The local president is Mrs. Lloyd Tefft, of Wellsville.

"The Elmira College Club of Allegany County" is one of thirty similar clubs scattered over the United States. Its purpose is to preserve the influence of *alma mater,* sustain interest in the college's growth and afford pleasing comradeship to its alumnæ who come to teach in the public schools of the county. It also contributes to the regional scholarship fund. Monthly meetings are held from September to June, usually a luncheon with a guest speaker. The unique characteristic of this club is the widely varying ages of its membership. At present its oldest member is from the class of 1876. The president is Mrs. Hazel Campbell Schreckengost, wife of a professor at Alfred University.

"American Association of University Women," an organization of college women with 830 chapters in the United States, organized for practical educational work, with national headquarters at Washington, District of Columbia. The association admits for membership only graduates of institutions on an approved list of 246 colleges and universities. The local branch was formed at Alfred, Allegany County, with one hundred members from Alfred, Wellsville and Hornell. It convenes seven times a year on Saturday for luncheon with a speaker. It has four study groups independent of the general meetings. The president is Mrs. M. Ellis Drake, of Alfred.

CHAPTER LXIX

Poets and Poetry in Allegany County

By Mildred H. Sisson

The first poets in the Allegany foothills were the Seneca Indians. Theirs was the natural poetry of a primitive people. Its quality is attested by Carl Carmer. In his introduction to "Legends of the Longhouse" by Jesse Cornplanter, Mr. Carmer says: "The Iroquois excelled in government and in poetry."

Carleton Burke, research fellow of the Rochester Museum, is the author of two recent volumes derived from the poetry of the Iroquois. The first, "The Indian and His River," includes translations from the Iroquois, as well as original poetry inspired by their songs and legends. The second, "Symphony Iroquoian," is Mr. Burke's interpretation, in excellent English verse, of their night-long medicine ceremonial. The Rochester Museum, which published this second volume, has also sponsored the collection of sound-recordings of song cycles and chants of the Senecas. These translations and recordings constitute primary material for the student of poetry. Through them he can experience the quality of the poetry in use, if not actually created by, our red-skinned predecessors in what is now Allegany County.

The poetry of the Iroquois has the marked rhythm to be expected from a people devoted to the allied arts of music and dancing. There is also the fresh and natural imagery characteristic of those who dwell in the open. An old Indian, to quote Mr. Burke's translation, says:

> The Pines are young men, the maples are women.
> I am an old oak twisted and leaning.

And the "Lonesome Wind" says:

> Over the fields
> I wing, and the wavering
> Dance of the Corn Maiden
> Tells of my wandering.

The Iroquois had a keen ear for the music of words. Mr. Burke has been able to create whole stanzas from Indian names. English sound-equivalents of place-names bestowed by the Senecas are written indelibly upon our hills and our streams. Most conspicuous among these is the musical name of our river, the Genesee, translated by Mr. Burke as "river of the beautiful banks."

Poetry was an integral part of the life of the Iroquois. It was used for the story hours about the fire, when its subject was sometimes legendary, sometimes historical. There were poetic rituals for the feasts.

"The Sun, the Ruler of the Day, is high." Thus the chief began the ritual of the Feast of Thanksgiving for the Maple Tree, in the Old Council House at Caneadea.

There, too, at the "Feast of the Great Spirit," the Seneca equivalents of these lines yearly were heard:

Panther's heart and eye of eagle, moose's foot and foxes' cunning,
Thou dost give thy valiant people when the warpath's blood is running.
But the eye of owl in daylight, foot of turtle, heart of woman,
Stupid brain of bear in winter, to our valiant people's foemen.[1]

The spirit of "The All-Night Song of the Little Water Society," also celebrated at the Old Council House, has been caught in these words from Carleton Burke's "Symphony Iroquoian":

Gather the life of the streams and forests,
Gather the leaves of the Spring and Autumn,
Gather the dust of the mountains and valleys,
Dust of the rocks and mud of the marshes:
Gather the snows and the rains and the breezes,
Gather the earth and the sun and the heavens.
Gather the ways and the wisdom of animals,
Gather the song and the beauty of birds!
Mix with the roots of basswood and sassafras
And with the clean air flowing through the pines;
Dip with an acorn cup into woodland springs,
And drink, for you drink the most marvelous medicine.

The black-frocked friars who came into the land of the Iroquois as missionaries were men of learning. Some of them might have woven into poetry their own reactions to our "far-looking uplands," as noble then as now. And the pioneers, men of culture as of courage, they too might have turned our "pine-clad wilderness" into rhythm and rhyme. Letters and journals of those days may yet reveal the

1. From Alfred B. Street's "Frontenac," 1847.

first poetry written here by white men. But so far as present records go, our first native white poet was born April 10, 1837. And, as frequently happens in literary history, our greatest poet came earliest.

Byron Forceythe Willson was born in a typical pioneer's log cabin home in Little Genesee, near the "bold, bare hill" of which he was later to sing, at whose base lies "the quiet village with its single spire," through which

. . . . like some lone Indian girl
With soft soliloquy steals the valley stream.[2]

His father, Hiram Willson, was a man of influence in the community, being especially active in educational affairs. He was a successful farmer and lumberman and built a home in Little Genesee of more than average comfort and attractiveness. It is still occupied. About 1845 the family migrated by raft to Kentucky and later to New Albany, Indiana. There both Mr. and Mrs. Willson died, leaving Forceythe, the eldest, in charge of the younger brothers, Augustus and Hiram, the daughter, Mary, and the family estate. An account of the life of Forceythe Willson was compiled a few years ago by his sister Mary's daughter, Miss Mary E. Combs, now of Friendship, New York. Miss Combs writes:

As a youth Forceythe (he never used the name of Byron) was a student at Antioch College in Ohio and later at Harvard, but he was compelled to leave because of tuberculosis. In 1863, while living in New Albany, he met and married Elizabeth Conwell Smith, a very gifted poet, whose writings he later collected and had privately printed (in 1866).

After their marriage they moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts, purchased the old Eldridge Gerry homestead and here they gathered the younger brothers and sister. After his wife's death the children entered Alfred Academy at Alfred, New York, and here Forceythe came to be with them, passing away there on February 2, 1867 (in his twenty-ninth year). He and his wife are buried at Laurel, Indiana.

Forceythe Willson published but one book, "The Old Sergeant and Other Poems," printed by Ticknor and Field, Boston, in 1866. . . . . The best known of this collection is "The Old Sergeant," a true incident of the Civil War. (This was originally printed as a carrier's greeting in the "Louisville Journal," published by George D. Prentice). The poem attracted the attention of President Lincoln and he wrote to Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, asking him if he could tell him the name of the author. Dr. Holmes in turn wrote to Mr. Prentice, who referred him to the author, then living in Cambridge.

2. From "Forceythe Willson," by John Jemes Piatt, "Atlantic Monthly," March, 1875.

. . . . Dr. Holmes called and from this meeting there grew up a strong friendship between the two men. Through Dr. Holmes, Forceythe met and became the friend of Ralph Waldo Emerson, James Russell Lowell, Henry W. Longfellow, and others of the Cambridge and Concord literary circle.

During the war Dr. Holmes delivered at a great many places in this country a lecture on Poets and Poetry of the War. He had the talk printed in large type for use in his lecture work and presented one of these to Augustus Willson, after the death of his brother. This is full of annotations and corrections in Dr. Holmes' writing. In it he gives a very fine tribute to Byron Forceythe Willson's ability as a writer and quotes "The Old Sergeant" in full to its close.

Miss Combs now owns this copy of Dr. Holmes' lecture. Mr. Willson's collection is available for students at the library of Alfred University. His shorter poems are characterized by mysticism and an exquisite delicacy of thought and feeling, of which the following is an illustration:

> The Infinite fills one and all:
> The little animated mote
> That on a rose's breath might float,
> Or on a sunbeam rise and doat,
> God liveth in him, still and small.[3]

For many years the Forceythe Willson Club of Alfred has kept the poet's memory alive in the county. His centennial in 1937 was commemorated with a broadcast from Olean sponsored by the Cuba Poetry Society. Cassar R. Adams, publisher of the "Cuba Patriot," supplied the continuity and Robert Renwick, also of Cuba, read "The Old Sergeant." A portion of Mrs. Willson's poem, "A Love-Letter," her tribute to her husband, was also read. The "Cuba Patriot" gave generous space to the centennial, and the "Friendship Register" also published selections from Mr. Willson's poems. In the same year the Poetry Society dedicated its annual booklet to Mr. Willson.

Among the projects of the Cuba Poetry Society, now in its seventh year, has been research on other poets and poetry of the county. The files of the society now contain several hundred poems, selected from many hundreds more, which have been written by sixty-six men, women, and young people on whom the county has some claim. From the findings of this research, a poetry map of the county is being created by Flo Louise Trenkle, of the North Cuba Road. From this source the following selections have been assembled.

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3. From "A Valedictory," by Byron Forceythe Willson.

In 1887 Alfred University conferred the degree of Bachelor of Arts upon Edwin H. Lewis. Other degrees followed in the course of Professor Lewis' career as an educator. His chief contribution to the literature of Allegany County is his essay, entitled "Allen of Alfred." But he was gifted also in poetry. The University of Chicago published, in 1923, the occasional poems which Professor Lewis had written for that institution during a long period. These contain such pregnant lines as

> . . . . (the) sweet surprise
> Of common goodness proves the mystery
> That God may tent Himself in flesh and blood.

Professor Lewis died in California in 1938.

Lester Courtland Rogers was an early and prolific writer in the county. He served as pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Nile and later became a member of the faculty of Alfred University. His poems, published in 1895, under the title "The Golden Link," are pleasing records of a good life.

The county's "Centennial History," compiled by John S. Minard, contains over five hundred lines of well selected poetry. More than half of these may be classed as local poetry. Among them is the "Centennial Poem," by the Hon. Hanford L. Gordon, of Los Angeles, California. This was read by Madame Alberti, daughter of President Allen, of Alfred, at the centennial celebration in Wellsville in 1895. G. W. F. was one of the first principals of Rushford Academy. His "Sonnet to the County," which Mr. Minard had the good judgment to include in the history though it was received too late to be read at the celebration, is perhaps the best tribute yet paid to the county. It contains these lines:

> Wood-crowned, rill-cleft, fondling in close embrace
> Thy dear, one river, holiest of streams
> To one who views thee in an exile's dreams.

The "Rushford Centennial History," compiled in 1908, contains some good poetry, notably a long poem by Mary E. Lane, wife of the Rev. John Lane, minister of the Presbyterian Church in Rushford from about 1866 to 1875. This poem, which is printed without a title, was written by request for a benefit party.

Ralph Galusha Utter was born on the site of the Wee Blue Inn, west of the village of Friendship, in 1857. He was poet of the class of 1880 of Friendship Academy. Among his later poems are a number of excellent sonnets philosophical in character. Miss Lillian Hos-

ley, also of Friendship, of the same class as Mr. Utter, won a national hymn contest conducted by the Universalist Church for a jubilee celebration in 1899.

Lovers of poetry in the county still mourn the passing of Donald F. McLennan, a native of Lyndon Hills, a graduate of Alfred University, a lawyer of Syracuse, New York, and a summer resident of North Cuba. His widow published some of his poems in 1936 under the title "Lyndon Hills." These have been likened to "The Cotter's Saturday Night," preserving as they do the customs of early days in local history.

Among contemporary writers of poetry in the county are:

Elsie Binns, of Alfred, author of the university's centennial pageant, part of it in blank verse; of a play, "The Furnace," also in blank verse; and of lyrics published in the "Christian Science Monitor" and the "New York Times."

Victor Hammond, of West Clarksville, formerly an oil producer, now a dairy farmer, who has published three volumes of poetry, the third under the title "Late Harvest." Mr. Hammond's poems range in mood from the mystical to the humorous; in form, from hokku to sonnets and villanelles.

Monroe Conklin, a farmer on Union Hill, who turns hay barns, maple sugaring, the woods in wind storms, into poetry which is published in newspapers and journals.

Clara Adeline Lowry, of Angelica, who writes occasional verse and whose writing is an accomplishment acquired since her invalidism.

Dora H. Witter, of Cuba, whose homespun verse finds ready space in western New York papers.

Fannie Medbury Pendleton, of Cuba and Endicott, New York, long known for her short stories and monologues and more recently for her excellent poetry.

Shirley D. Babbitt, a native of Rushford, graduate of Houghton, World War veteran, teacher, and father of Franklin, Shirley, and Jim Babbitt, for whom he has written a boxful of delightful children's poems. He has also given us some fine lines on Caneadea Lake.

It is worthy of note that in the year following the first issue of the magazine "Poetry" in Chicago, a magazine that has played such an important part in the "renascence" of poetry in this country, Houghton College inaugurated a poetry contest as part of its annual literary contest. Mr. Babbitt and Ray W. Hazlett, now dean of the college, were among its originators. Some of the best of the prize winning poems are:

"The Crucifixion," by Robert S. Chamberlain, Black Creek—First (1916).

"Rain and a Dove," by Ransom Richardson, Jr., Fillmore—First (1934).

"Beauty," by Ada Van Rensselaer—First (1936).

"Spring Before Commencement," by Elsie Faith Giggs—Second (1936).

"Awakening," by Kenneth Wilson—First (1938).

Mr. Hazlett has done some research on the poetry of Houghton College and lists among its versifiers, Jason A. McPherson, whose "Houghton on the Genesee" records the evolution of "Jockey Street" from "the gate of Hell" to Houghton, "the town of God;" and among student poetry a long poem by Alison Edgar read at her commencement in 1913, entitled "The Death of Socrates."



(Courtesy of Roy A. Peck, Belmont)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, CUBA

Poetry contests have been conducted by the Cuba Poetry Society since 1933, when Dorothy Setchel, a thirteen-year-old Cuba girl, won the first award with her Christmas poem, "The Chosen Star." "To a Humming Bird," also by Dorothy Setchel, won in the 1934 contest. Other winners have been:

(1935)—First, Shirley D. Babbitt, Caneadea, a group of nature poems; second, Robert W. Renwick, Cuba, "Soliloquy."

(1936)—First, Elsie Binns, Alfred, "Simple Beauty"; second, Ransom Richardson, Jr., Fillmore, "Cinquain."

(1937)—First, Edward F. Creagh, Jr., Alfred, "The Carillon"; second, Mrs. Ida Van Slyke Havens, Belfast, "Sky Bells."

(1938)—First, Mrs. Winifred Edson Rich, Caneadea, two poems on "The Genesee"; first honorable mention, Ray W. Hazlett, Houghton, "Portages."

Contests are one means by which the Poetry Society collects material for its annual booklets. In 1934 it published "Christmas Song." In 1935, "Allegany Foothills" (featuring a composite poem by the society). In 1936, "Portraits" (some of them of county folk). In 1937, "Patterns" (illustrating various forms of poetry). In 1938, "Sky Bells" (a collection of poems inspired by the ancient carillon at Alfred). The 1939 booklet will feature new poems on the Genesee and a selected bibliography compiled from research on the poetry of the river.

In 1934 the County Young Women's Christian Association presented Edwin Markham in a lecture-recital in Wellsville. Louis Untermeyer was at Houghton in 1937, and Carl Sandburg at Alfred in 1938. Enthusiastic audiences greeted these outstanding American poets.

Interest in poetry has always been encouraged by the literary clubs of the county and of late many of them have included local poetry in their programs as has also the County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Elmira College Club.

The Cuba Circulating Library sponsored an exhibit of local poetry in 1937 and for several years has maintained a bulletin board devoted to poetry in general.

All this is encouraging. Yet there are lyrics to come from our hills and our valleys, from our forests and oil refineries; there are epics calling from our histories to be woven into the enduring fabric of poetry; there are dramas, lived out in the stern meter of life in the hills, waiting the poet's pen. These will be written if the present interest in poetry in Allegany County continues.

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